

redeye

HARD r 'ROCK' LIFE

It has ratings issues, but it also
has Oprah—30 reasons you've
gotta watch '30 Rock'
pages 32-33

Thursday
OCTOBER 30, 2008

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago
Daily



Tina Fey (center)
and the cast of
"30 Rock." NBC

Pleeeeease give me
an Obama ticket! **7**

Chicago Fire bring
heat to playoffs **12**

Mrs. Becks down
to her undies **48**

The secrets to a
Halloween hookup **17**



aye, aye caption

txtable

Text us a funny caption for the photo (left) and we'll print the best in Friday's RedEye. To give it a shot text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and name to **47383**.

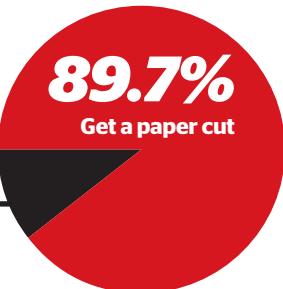


WEDNESDAY'S WINNER

Palin: "I can see Russia from here!"
McCain: "Oh Lord, not again!"
 —Russell Franklin

The results from
Wednesday's
Random Dilemma:

10.3% —
Get a bad haircut



random dilemma

Who doesn't love a good game of Would You Rather? Text "random" and the number of your answer to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly. Which would you rather do?

(1) Be able to read people's minds OR (2) Know the future

2do

To draw

Bring your own paper and pencils or paint and enjoy a free open bar while drawing two nude female models from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursday at Kerosene Creative Services (920 N. Franklin St., Suite 301). RSVP to 312-867-1947.

To rent

Want to look super trendy without buying the latest fashions? You can rent designer jewelry, sunglasses and handbags for a weekly fee at avelle.com.

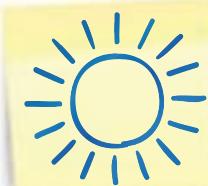
To shop

Check out Anne Klein New York's fall collection and get a special beauty treatment, free champagne and appetizers from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday at Macy's Water Tower Place (835 N. Michigan Ave.).

To makeover

Get tips on makeup, hair styling and products to use at dailymakeover.com.

Send tips to redeye2do@hotmail.com



66 48

TODAY'S FORECAST

Yes! Warm AND sunny!



FRI.

72
49

Almost
beach
weather



SAT.

65
50

Partly
cloudy

SUN.

62
51

Cloudy
day



MON.

71
55

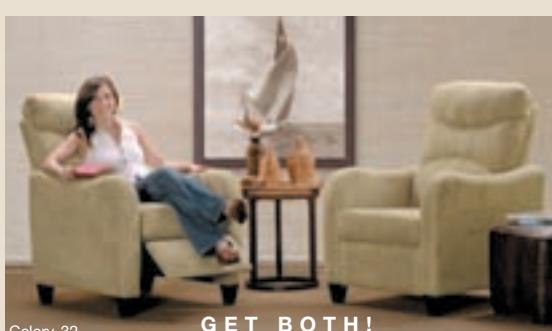
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*On approved credit. Shown merchandise is valued at \$799.99. Financing provided by CitiFinancial Retail Services. \$24.00 per month is the approximate amount to be paid for this purchase after a 10% down payment. Purchase accrues finance charges immediately & requires payments each month. Standard APR 24.99%. Default Rate APR 26.99%, minimum monthly finance charge is \$1.50. See store for details. Leather Blend 0611.09, 17% Leather. Not good on prior sales. Limit 2 offers. Merchandise pickup may not be convenient or available in your area. Delivery & sales tax additional to be paid at time of purchase. Not all products displayed in all showrooms. www.jenniferconvertibles.com

Prime-time Obama

Candidate promises rescue plan for middle class in ad

Associated Press

WASHINGTON In a campaign ad aired at a cost of millions, presidential candidate Barack Obama promised a rescue plan for the middle class in tough times Wednesday night as he reached for victory in his 21-month quest for the presidency.

"I will not be a perfect president," Obama said in the commercial. "But I can promise you this—I will always tell you what I think and where I stand."

Aides described the unusual ad as a final summation of Obama's campaign. They put the total cost at roughly \$4 million, enough to show it simultaneously on CBS, NBC and Fox. It also was running on BET, Univision, MSNBC and TV One.

Across 30 minutes, the commercial blended views of Obama speaking in a setting that resembled the Oval Office, at the Democratic National Convention and elsewhere as well as scenes of Americans discussing their economic and health-care troubles, and testimonials to the Democratic presidential candidate by politicians and business executives.



The ad showed his wife, Michelle, and his two daughters as well as past photos of his black father from Kenya and white mother from Kansas.

The campaign arranged to end the program with a live transmission of a campaign rally in Florida, one of several states where Obama is trying to capture traditionally Republican territory.

After months of campaigning, Obama offered no new proposals in the ad. Instead, he stressed his plan to offer tax cuts to the middle class, "restore the long-term health of our economy and our middle class."

The ad was not appearing on ABC because by the time the network decided to offer the time slot to Obama, his campaign already had finalized the ad buy, according to people familiar with the discussions who requested anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly.

Earlier, taping an appearance on "The Daily Show," Obama said he had to reassure one of his daughters that the commercial would not pre-empt everything.

"I was describing this to Michelle and my daughters, and Malia, who's 10, said, 'Hold up a second. Are you saying that my programs are going to be interrupted?' I said, 'No, we didn't buy on Disney.' She was relieved."



Hotter in red

Looking to spice up your relationship or attract that guy you've been eyeing?

It's time to roll out the red, ladies. The color makes women more attractive to men, according to researchers at the University of Rochester in New York, who found that women's photographs framed in red were preferable to those framed in white, according to an L.A. Times report.

RedEye's got some ideas on how you can work more of that captivating color into your life.

Become a die-hard Bulls fan.

The team wears red, so you could score by purchasing some fan gear.

Rock a St. Louis Cardinals cap.

Another team that reaches into the red zone. Just don't wear it around Wrigley.

Ride the Red Line.

Just make sure you stand near the signage.

Hang out by a RedEye box.

How much redder can you get? For bonus points, hand out a few papers to cute guys. We won't stop you.



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**page
four**

**MARK
BAZER**
 redeyeditor@tribune.com

Here you have two choices: You can send the kid to his room and have some peace until he grows up and becomes a convict, or you can settle in for a lengthy discussion about who and what wears pants that may save you from watching the video for a 301st time.

Putting pants into perspective

Kids, it's said, have a way of putting things in perspective. And I'm here to tell you: It's true!

Here I'd been obsessing about the economy, the election and whether Joaquin Phoenix has really quit acting when my 3-year-old son shook me from my petty adult preoccupations.

"Why isn't that robot wearing pants?" he asked.

We were watching a video of a (pantless) robot fight a giant octopus on TV for the 300th time that evening.

"Robots don't wear pants," I said.

But that's not the kind of answer a kid will accept. "But whyyyyyyyyyyyyy don't they wear pants?"

Here you have two choices: You can send the kid to his room and have some peace until he grows up and becomes a convict, or you can settle in for a lengthy discussion about who and what wears pants that may save you from watching the video for a 301st time.

"Well," I began, not sure where I was heading, "robots don't wear pants because, well, you know, they don't make pants that fit robots' unusual dimensions."

"But," my son said, "Kim Kardashian wears pants."

"Hmm, you have a point there. Want to watch the video again?"

"Change" has been the mantra of this year's election, and everyone seems to really want it, whatever it is. For some, it's universal health coverage; for others, it's a brand-new \$150,000 wardrobe.

But it's hard to imagine us getting change in fundamental ways that truly affect how we live, just like robots are unlikely to start wearing pants, even when they're really cold.

The middle class is always held up as the ideal by politicians. They refer to us ad nauseam as the "American People"—a term I hate, not because I don't consider myself an American person, but because whenever politicians use it, it's like they're talking about us as if we aren't in the same room. It's like we're 3-year-olds.

"The American People aren't wearing diapers anymore, but they still wear pull-ups to bed."

"We don't wanna go to bed!"

"You're not going to bed yet, American People. I'm just telling Mr. Brokaw about you. Here, have a cookie."

But a tax cut here, a promise to reduce food and energy costs there won't change the way so many of us live—parents working full-time; kids as young as 1 spending all day away from home; three hours (at the most) every evening to eat, buy crap from China, fix that crap, pay bills and ponder either why our entire financial system has collapsed or the sartorial habits of artificial life forms.

At the risk of sailing off the Great Cliffs of Triteness, the essential question that's been posed to me of why robots don't wear pants has me wondering why the answer necessarily has to be some variation of "because that's just the way it's always been." Couldn't we somehow reprogram our culture so that the path from Point A in the morning to Point B at the end of the day is a little less, well, robotic?

Or maybe I just need to stop wearing pants. That's the way it is in Europe, I think.



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The exhibition was organized by the Art Institute of Chicago. Major funding was generously provided by The Chauncey and Marion D. McCormick Family Foundation and the Julius Lewis/Rhoades Exhibition Endowment Fund. Additional support was provided by the Community Associates of the Art Institute of Chicago. After a design by Justus van Egmont. Produced at the workshop of Gerard Peemans. Cleopatra and Antony Enjoying Supper (detail), c. 1680. Flanders, Brussels. Gift of Mrs. Chauncey McCormick and Mrs. Richard Ely Danielson.



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CTA riders speak out at hearings

Chicago Tribune

The CTA's proposed fare hikes faced scrutiny Wednesday night from more than 100 people, some of whom said the added costs would hurt those most affected by the sagging economy.

South Side resident Gregory Gaither, 59, told the CTA board that, among other things, the fare increase would hurt the Maywood church he and some 400 others attend. Gaither later said he believed up to 20 percent of churchgoers at Miracle Revival Cathedral, 2010 St. Charles Rd., take public transportation there from the South and West Sides each Sunday.

"Chicago has become a very expensive city to live," said Gaither, a former CTA bus driver. "As a native Chicagoan ... I would not like to see Chicago become one of those places where it's so expensive that you can't live here."

The CTA plans to raise some fares as much as 50 cents to \$2.25 a ride. The agency also would eliminate the bonus for Chicago Card users and increase the price of a 30-day pass to \$90.

At the same time, the agency, which is increasing spending about 10 percent to \$1.3 billion, plans to eliminate the equivalent of 623 full-time jobs.

The CTA lays part of the blame for its budget shortfall on the governor's decision in January to extend free rides to seniors, a gift the agency says costs it about \$39 million a year. Fare increases are projected to generate \$42 million per year.

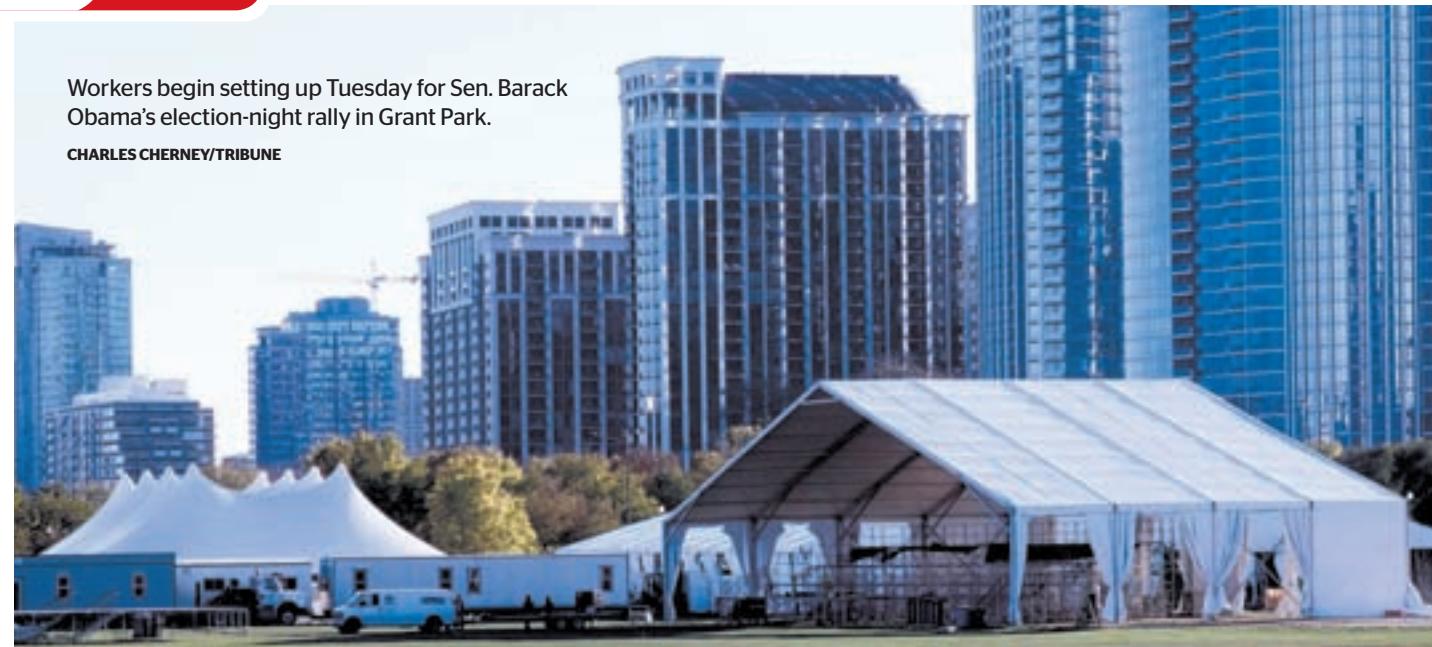
Among those who spoke in favor of the proposed budget was Civic Federation President Laurence Msall. "We believe it's responsible because it maintains service," he told the CTA board.

But some at Wednesday's meeting expressed frustration that the CTA was back asking the public for more money just 10 months after the state legislature passed a quarter-cent increase in the sales tax in the Chicago region to help the beleaguered agency.

"It hasn't even been a year yet, and we're talking about this again," said Robert Stone, another frustrated CTA rider.

Workers begin setting up Tuesday for Sen. Barack Obama's election-night rally in Grant Park.

CHARLES CHERNEY/TRIBUNE



OVERHEARD ON TWITTER

RedEye asked its Twitter followers about their plans for Election Day. Here's what you had to say. Register to vote RedEye at twitter.com/redeyechicago.

bayjb On election day I'm voting and drinking heavily if the outcome is bad. Or high-tailing it north to Canada to be a plumber



219Lisa On election day I have class all day and but since I already voted it will be on to election parties and probably grant park.

stirwise plan for election day: get up early, walk dog, go to work early, leave work early, vote, drink beer, hold my breath.

mjluther On election day, get to polls EARLY (when they open), vote, then check returns occasionally.



The golden ticket

Chicago Tribune

For Barack Obama backers who weren't quick enough to apply online for tickets to Tuesday night's rally, there are a few options: begging, pleading and offering money.

The campaign is now directing people to a waiting list for its Grant Park festivities, but some are going to Craigslist and eBay instead.

The campaign will e-mail tickets to lucky applicants and will require them to show a photo ID at the rally—to prevent wholesale scalping of tickets. But each recipient will get two tickets and can take along a guest, so lots of folks are volunteering to be that guest.

Pleas for spare tickets Wednesday on Craigslist came from Sweden, Hawaii, Texas and Canada.

A college student who planned to vote for the first time offered \$80. Another person volunteered \$200. A schoolteacher tried to get a student with perfect attendance into the rally. A woman in Rogers Park

Extra transit service

Transit agencies will offer extra service on Election Day and into the night when Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama is scheduled to hold a rally in Grant Park, officials said Wednesday.

The CTA will add buses and trains next Tuesday to equal the level of service provided during July 3 festivities downtown, authorities said. Metra will offer more trains as well, and details of actual schedules are still being worked out.

offered a massage and free help with Apple computers.

"I've received about 150 responses to my ad so far," said a Chicago attorney who offered his two tickets before realizing they were non-transferable. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of the vehemence of some of the messages he received.

A few threatened him for thinking about selling the tickets, but most offered money. Some hinted at romance. One floored him with its directness: "Are you a dude or a chick?" The lawyer took the ad down.

Obama party details begin to leak out

Barack Obama's election-night rally in Grant Park next Tuesday will go as late as 1 a.m., and will not include live music or alcohol sales. Vendors, however, will be on hand with pizza, hot dogs and hot chocolate.

Those details of the Democratic presidential candidate's rally became clear late Wednesday as the Chicago Park District released the special event permit application required to reserve the park.

The permit states that there will be 7,500 "participants" and 65,000 spectators.

The permit application for the south end of Grant Park calls for 265 portable toilets, 6- and 8-foot fences, 925 iron barricades, spotlight and audio towers. "Amplified sound" would be allowed between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m.

Security will be extraordinary. The city has canceled days off Tuesday for police officers. Attendees likely will be required to pass through metal detectors to enter.

The Obama campaign began taking applications for rally tickets Tuesday and quickly ran out. The city will hold a news conference Thursday with more details. **TRIBUNE**

Airfares take off

Airfares shot up 12 percent on average for flights at O'Hare in the second quarter as the cost of plane tickets nationwide soared to record heights, according to federal data released Wednesday. Nationally, consumers paid an average of \$352 per round trip during the second quarter, up 8.1 percent from the prior year and the highest amount on record in the 13 years that the Bureau of Transportation Statistics has tracked ticket prices.

3 held in South Side bank robbery

Three people were in custody Wednesday for making off with more than \$35,000 during a holdup at a Far South Side bank Tuesday, according to a federal complaint. David Newton Jr., Sean Smith and Charles Smith were arrested in connection with the heist at a Charter One Bank branch in the 1300 block of West 103rd Street in Morgan Park.

Illinois sues over dangerous bassinets

Illinois Atty. Gen. Lisa Madigan announced Wednesday that her office has filed a lawsuit aimed at a now-defunct bassinet maker that allegedly continued to supply dangerous bassinets despite knowing that they had caused at least one child's death. The bassinets were made by Simplicity. The suit was filed against SFCA Inc., which bought the assets of Simplicity earlier this year.

Stroger says no new taxes
Months after convincing commissioners to approve a one-penny-on-the-dollar sales tax increase, Cook County Board President Todd Stroger said Wednesday that the spending plan he will introduce next month won't include tax or fee hikes. "We will be able to make some changes in technology that will make us more efficient and help us reduce the workforce in the future," he said after a luncheon speech at the City Club of Chicago.

Grant to help expand preschools

Chicago Public School officials said Wednesday that they are expanding the number of preschool slots in the district by 1,500, thanks to \$11 million in state money. The cash comes from an early childhood grant program and is being used to expand the programs at 50 city schools, Mayor Daley said. The district now will offer preschool at more than 350 schools, serving more than 33,000 children, officials said.

Cracking down on egg sales

Chicago Tribune

Two years ago on Howard Street, along the Chicago-Evanston border, so many homes, businesses and vehicles were egged that some residents still refer to it as the "Egg War of 2006."

"It was a disaster," Evanston Ald. Ann Rainey (8th) said. "Given the world situation, calling throwing eggs a disaster might sound like a stretch, but some people had to spend \$1,000 to clean up the mess."

Two community groups, Brummel Park Neighbors and Network 2424, backed by Rainey and Chicago Ald. Joe Moore (49th), decided to try to crack the problem at the source by asking stores to stop selling eggs

GROCER'S OPINION

Store owners such as Yourash Matti, whose shop still bears a small stain from an egg last Halloween, are supportive.

» "They were like the devil," said Matti, owner of Leon's Liquor and Grocery. "I don't sell at Halloween now to kids any age. This is not a joke, really. From tomorrow, no eggs in my store."

to youths around Halloween. Moore's office sent letters to grocers, and Rainey tracked down a renegade store that supplied eggs used in a smaller number of eggings last year.

The egg blockade seems to have worked,

residents say, though it will be tested Friday.

"This year we don't expect any," she said. "There's just no way."

While informal egg bans are common in the United Kingdom, in Illinois it's a bit more scrambled, said Laimutis Nargelenas of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

He was unaware of other departments encouraging the halt of egg sales. "What do you do if the kids come in to buy eggs for mom and dad?" he said.

Bernard Garbo, head of the 2424 Network, said a "great side benefit" of the egg crackdown, which is accompanied by volunteers patrolling streets with two-way radios, is it puts drug dealers on alert.



HOT WATER

A taxi and a car collided early Wednesday at the intersection of North Avenue and Wells Street in Old Town, sending the cab crashing through the window of a Starbucks, officials said. Each car had only a driver, and both were taken to a hospital. No pedestrians were hurt. The Starbucks is at 210 W. North Ave. and is open 24 hours a day. **MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE**

McDonald's getting new packaging

McDonald's unveiled Wednesday what one executive called its biggest-ever global packaging overhaul, aimed at playing up freshness and food quality.

The packaging will feature pictures of products and ingredients accompanied by text aimed at "storytelling," as McDonald's executives put it.

For instance, the new Big Mac box is plastered with a prominent image of the burger, as well as pictures of a head of lettuce, an onion and other ingredients. "There is only one Big Mac," proclaims a headline of sorts, with a block of text

WHEN?

The new packaging will be launched next month in the U.S., the United Kingdom and Ireland. It will be rolled out through the rest of the world gradually through 2009 and 2010.

describing "what makes your Big Mac so unique."

"With our new packaging, we are putting the focus on food," McDonald's Chief Marketing Officer Mary Dillon said at a news conference. "It's the essence of who we are."

Gun hidden near where Hudson's nephew found

Police found a handgun hidden in shrubs Wednesday just a block south of the location where 7-year-old Julian King's body was found earlier this week.

The weapon was being tested to compare with ballistics taken from the murder scenes where actress Jennifer Hudson's family members were slain, police said while offering few other details.

Officials would not say whether the gun was a .45-caliber weapon, the type sources said was used to kill Hudson's nephew, King, as well as the celebrity's mother, Darnell Donerson, and her brother, Jason Hudson.

A few other "small bits of evidence," also were recovered next to the gun, which was nestled in thick shrubs in a vacant lot in the 1400 block of South Kolin Avenue, according to Nicholas Roti, deputy chief of patrol for Harrison Area. King's body was discovered Monday morning, slumped in the back seat of a Chevy Suburban parked in the 1300 block of South Kolin.

King, who had been shot twice in the head, had been missing since Friday, when Hudson and Donerson, were found shot to death in the family's Englewood home at 7019 S. Yale Ave.

Police were clearly taking the discovery of the weapon seriously, but police sources cautioned against reading too much into the discovery before forensic testing was conducted.

Discarding a murder weapon so close to the location of King's body would be an unlikely and desperate act, one veteran police investigator said.

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London's largest mall

1 With marble floors, crystal chandeliers and a champagne bar, the Westfield London mall is glitzy and big. But when the doors open Thursday, the retail temple faces the most daunting retail environment in recent memory. **AP PHOTO**

Setback for leader

2 New South Korean intelligence indicates that ailing North Korean leader Kim Jong Il suffered a serious setback in his recovery from a stroke and has been hospitalized, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

Convicted for plot

3 A Canadian accused of plotting with a group of British Muslims to bomb buildings and natural gas lines in the UK was convicted Wednesday in Toronto of financing and facilitating terrorism. Momim Khawaja was the first person charged under Canadian anti-terrorism laws passed after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Airline merger

4 The Justice Department on Wednesday approved a much-anticipated merger between Delta and Northwest, clearing the way for creation of the world's largest airline.

Storm wallops Northeast

More snow fell Wednesday in parts of the Northeast as utility crews labored to restore service to thousands of customers blacked out by the region's first big snowstorm of the season.

Body may be missing teacher

5 A woman's body was found Wednesday in a wooded area about 13 miles from the abandoned car of a teacher who had disappeared two days before, police in Garden City, N.Y., said.



6 **ZIARAT, PAKISTAN** An earthquake early Wednesday measuring as high as 6.5 on the Richter scale jolted southwestern Pakistan, killing at least 170 people, injuring hundreds of others and destroying homes and government buildings, Pakistani officials said. **AP PHOTO**

Higher education

Hold on to your textbooks, folks. Annual college costs are on the rise, according to new figures out Wednesday in the annual "Trends in College Pricing" report from the College Board. With states cutting budgets, increases are expected next year too.

6.4% Increase for tuition and fees at four-year public universities

\$6,585: Average cost of a four-year university

5.9% Increase among private colleges

\$25,143: Average cost of a private college

Reserve cuts key interest rate again

4 **WASHINGTON** The Federal Reserve has slashed a key interest rate by half a percentage point as it seeks to revive an economy hit by a long list of maladies stemming from the most severe financial crisis in decades.

The cut marked the second half-point reduction in the funds rate this month. The Fed slashed the rate by that amount in a coordinated move with foreign central banks on Oct. 8.

In a brief statement explaining Wednesday's action, the Fed said that the "intensification of financial market turmoil is likely to exert additional restraint on spending, partly by further reducing the ability of households and business to obtain credit."

The central bank said that "downside risks to growth remain," holding out the promise of further rate cuts if needed. Many analysts said they believe the Fed will not stop at 1 percent if officials see

THE CUT

The central bank on Wednesday reduced its target for the federal funds rate, the interest banks charge on overnight loans, to 1 percent, a low last seen in 2003-2004. The funds rate has not been lower since 1958, when Dwight Eisenhower was president.

the need to cut rates further. Some are forecasting another half-point move at the Fed's last meeting of the year on Dec. 16.

David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors, said the Fed's rate cut will be followed over the next week by similar action in other major countries as they grow more concerned that the recession that began in the U.S. is spreading to their regions.



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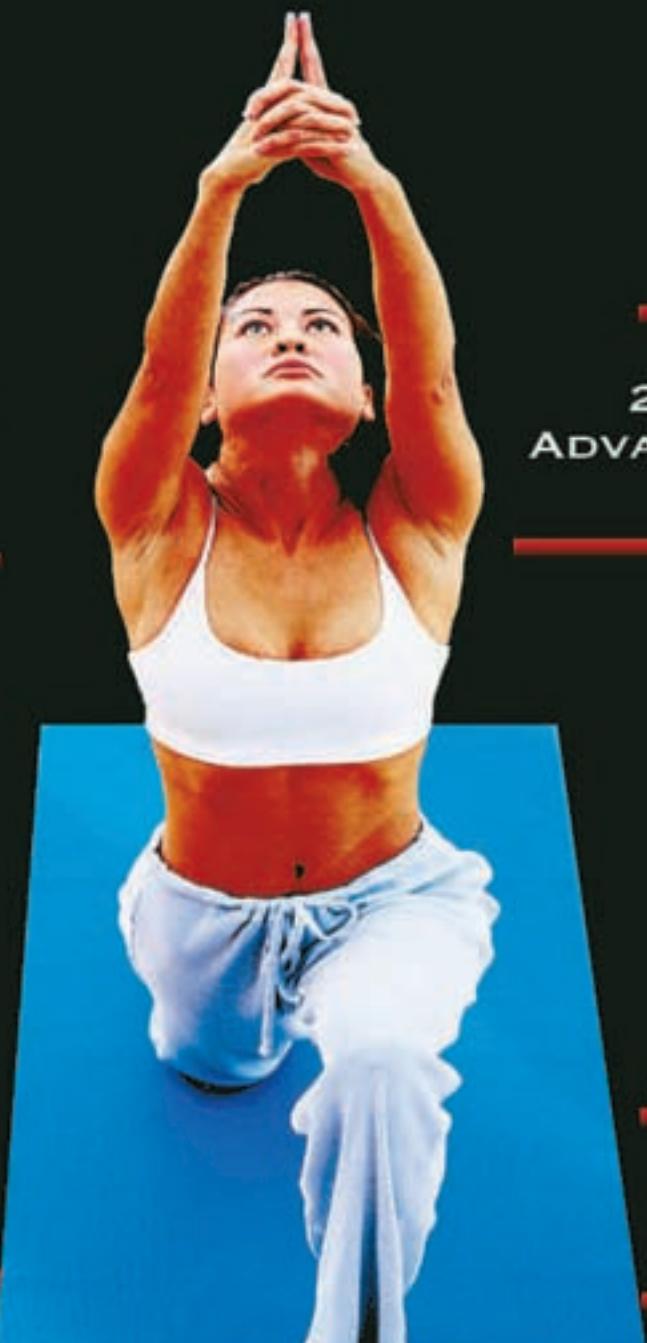
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sports

CHICAGO VS. NEW ENGLAND

Kick them around

When the Chicago Fire kick off the Major League Soccer playoffs Thursday at New England, it will be the sixth time in eight years the clubs have met in the postseason. The Revolution has eliminated the Fire from the playoffs the past three autumns, but let's see how those Beantowners fare in a matchup of metropolises. That's right: We've got a city-sized RedEye faceoff!

MICHAEL HINES, REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Chicago: Cuauhtemoc Blanco might be the most creative soccer player in the league, and he's become even more dangerous since the Fire acquired U.S. national team striker Brian McBride, a native of the Chicago area.



SOCcer STAR POWER

New England: The Revs won't have Steve Ralston (broken leg) or Taylor Twellman (concussion) in this series. No biggie though—those guys are only the team captain and a guy with 99 career regular-season goals, respectively.

Eddie Vedder, Bill Murray, John Cusack, Barack Obama, Jim Belushi, Vince Vaughn, George Wendt, Jeff Garlin and the late Bernie Mac



CELEB SPORTS FANS

Stephen King, Ben Affleck, Dane Cook, Mark Wahlberg, Matt Damon and Denis Leary

Kyle Orton is no Rex Grossman, and that seems to be a good thing. The fourth-year QB is tied with Donovan McNabb for the 11th-best passer rating in the NFL.



QUARTER-BACKS

Matt Cassel has been a man under the microscope since Tom Brady went down with a knee injury in the season opener. And what's this? The Patriots are 5-2 and tied for the AFC East lead? Weird.

The great fire of 1871 devastated the Windy City. More than a century later, Major League Soccer decided to name a team after the tragedy.



MOMENT IN HISTORY

USA! USA! Those rebellious Beantowners gave the British the boot, then named their football (Patriots) and soccer (Revolution) teams after the accomplishment.



CUISINE



THE WINNER: CHICAGO

Sorry to be the fly in your chowdah, New England, but Chi-town's got the star power and the thick-crust cred to win this faceoff. Now if only the Fire could beat the Revolution ...

Cuauhtemoc Blanco
GETTY IMAGES FILE



Canine hot line

Fire fans, let's hear you! What's your take on this matchup with the Revolution? Can the Fire get over the hump this time? Send Whizzer your thoughts to redeyesports@tribune.com or just text "whiz" and your comment to 47383.

Fire alarm

Chicago Tribune

The Fire entered its last two playoff series against New England talking about getting revenge on the team that ended its season the year before. But after three straight years of frustration against the Revolution, the Fire has switched its focus heading into this year's playoff series. They want to advance; revenge can wait. "If you sit down and dwell on it, it could affect you," Fire forward Chris Rolfe said. "I'm done with it."

5 REASONS FIRE WILL ADVANCE

Rev's are banged up: The Revolution will be without 2008 team MVP Steve Ralston (broken right fibula) and 2005 MLS MVP Taylor Twellman (concussion).

Fire roster loaded: The Fire arguably has the most talented roster in MLS, certainly rivaling that of the Houston Dynamo. It helps that Brian McBride and Cuauhtemoc Blanco have played in a combined five World Cups.

Defense: The Revolution's inexperienced attack of

Kheli Dube and Kenny Mansally should have trouble with a Fire defense that allowed the second-fewest goals in MLS.

Rev's slumping: The Revolution owned the best record in MLS the first half of the season but has one victory in its last 10 games.

Regular-season dominance: The Fire is more confident knowing it dominated the Revolution in the regular season. The Fire won all three games and outscored the Revs 9-1.

5 REASONS FIRE WON'T ADVANCE

Rev's have Fire's number:

No matter how significant the Revolution's injuries may be, it's tough to ignore that it has advanced in four of its six playoff series against the Fire.

Shalrie Joseph: He's a beast for the Revolution in the midfield and can cause problems for the easily rattled Blanco, who was invisible in last year's Eastern Conference final.

Inconsistency: While consecutive victories isn't necessary to advancing, it's not a good sign that the Fire hasn't won back-to-back since

Aug. 9. Its last winning streak before that was May 8.

Regular season means little: Don't put too much stock in the Fire winning handily. The Fire won the regular season series against the Revs in 2006 and 2007 before being dumped when it really counted.

Steve Nicol: Any coach who can take his team to three straight championships in an always-changing league is capable of making adjustments to a lineup hit hard by injuries and suspensions.

PREDICTION

Fire advances 3-1 on aggregate. The Revolution is too banged up to keep the Fire down for a fourth straight year. Rolfe, Blanco and McBride each score for the Fire.



Rivalry week

The Fire and Revolution have become well-acquainted in the playoffs, but how does their playoff rivalry compare with other oft-seen postseason meetings in sports? Naturally, RedEye's own rivals—Whizkers (left) and Whizzer (right)—have their own special way of looking at it.

NBA

Boston Celtics vs. L.A. Lakers

One of the greatest postseason rivalries in sports, featuring some of the NBA's biggest legends: Larry Bird, Magic Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. And now Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant and Ray Allen.

Whizzer: It's almost unfair that these teams have had so much talent over the years. Maybe the real rivalry is Lakers, Celtics vs. the rest of the NBA.

Whizkers: Hey, how come you get to go first?

NFL

Indianapolis Colts vs. New England Patriots

It took the Colts three tries to get past the Patriots and finally win a Super Bowl in 2006.

Whizzer: Two storied franchises, two surefire Hall of Fame quarterbacks in Peyton Manning and Tom Brady. Plus, Brady has one helluva good looking girlfriend in Gisele Bundchen.

Whiskers: First again? I see how it is. You've got it all wrong, by the way. The Patriots' only claim to fame before Brady came along was getting crushed by the Bears in the 1986 Super Bowl.

Whizzer: You've always got to get the last word, don't you?



MLB

New York Yankees vs. Boston Red Sox

The big, bad Yankees got the best of Boston until 2004, when the Red Sox won the World Series.

Whizzer: How could you not root for the Red Sox to topple the Evil Empire in those classic meetings in the late-'90s and early 2000s?

Whizkers: Why don't you ask Don Zimmer? When there was a bench-clearing brawl in the 2003 ALCS, Boston's Pedro Martinez threw him to the ground. Real classy.

MLB

Cubs vs. the curse

No World Series titles in a century, no World Series visits since 1945.

Whizzer: No contest here. Curse wins every time.

Whizkers: Oh yeah, gotta agree. Poor Cubs. Makes even my heart go out to them.

Whizzer: All right, all done. Now get out of my face.

Whizkers: Not soon enough.

Oops, she did it again

Fox reporter Danyelle Sargent is the latest victim of company hat-er-ation. She asked San Francisco 49ers coach Mike Singletary about calling his mentor Bill Walsh when he accepted the job, but as most people know, Walsh passed away in 2007.

Sargent said on "The Dan Patrick Show" recently

she meant to ask Singletary about calling Walsh when he knew he wanted to be a coach in general, not with the 49ers.

Live TV creates prime opportunities for mistakes. Many of those errors are caught before airing—unless, of course, you're dealing with a mean-spirited person.

How else could those Chris Berman or Katie Couric bloopers appear on YouTube?

Sure, it was a dumb mistake. But I feel a little bad for the woman who seems to get noticed only for her on-air mistakes, all two of them (that we've seen).

I guess nobody is paying attention when you're doing your job right.

Charles in charge?

Could Alabama residents soon be calling Charles "I'm not a role model" Barkley their governor?

Possibly—in 2014.

I'm not going to hold the man's words against him, but his opponents sure will. Get to work on those canned political responses, Sir Charles.

Isn't that weird to think of Barkley being, well, political? I thought we liked him raw and unfiltered.

The Zeke mystery

What is going on with Isiah Thomas and sleeping pills? He may be a slimeball to some, but nobody wants to see him gone.

Madonna's stage tights are another story.

What could A-Rod see in her? I think there are some 50-plus women out there who can put young women to shame—Tina Turner, Sophia Loren, Beyoncé's mom—but Madonna?

I'm from the South so maybe I'm biased, but a little more meat on her bones could do her some good.

SHANNON J. OWENS IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

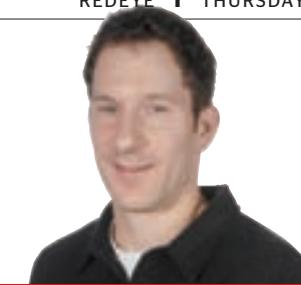


fame game

SHANNON J. OWENS
redeyesports
@tribune.com

Law of the land

We're still waiting for U.S. Senators to demand that Five on Five be offered to more people throughout the country.



TOPIC	BRIAN MOORE brmoore@tribune.com	TRACY SWARTZ tswartz@tribune.com	LEO EBERSOLE lebersole@tribune.com	SCOTT BOLOHAN redeyesports@tribune.com	ADAM CALDARELLI acaldarelli@tribune.com
1 Now that the Derrick Rose era has begun, what do you think?	I'm optimistic he can take them from painfully bad to nausea-inducing mediocre.	Rose before Jos? I'm not wearing Rose-colored glasses quite yet.	Playoffs—guaranteed, Derrick Rose is the next Chris Paul, and I'm going to Disneyland.	Fans are so excited they'll leave Rose of empty seats at the UC.	Meh, turned the ball over on his first touch.
2 Who is Vinny Del Negro's Hollywood look-alike?	Luke Wilson with a tan, better hair and a dead-end career.	Balki from "Perfect Strangers." Unfortunately, he won't likely do the "dance of joy" often.	Tony Danza, minus the weird fetish for Mona.	Emilio Estevez, except with a job.	I thought he was Scott Baio and Ralph Macchio's love child.
3 If the Bears were a presidential candidate, who would they be?	Bears = John McCain, if only because the Cubs = Sarah Palin.	Libertarian Wayne Allyn Root, a sports handicapper. The Bears are all handicaps.	Anyone from the Bull Moose party.	Ralph Nader. They're never taken seriously in the field. And they invented seat belts.	Against the Lions this week, they're Ronald Reagan vs. Walter Mondale circa 1984.
4 Daunte Culpepper might come back with the Lions. Good or bad idea?	Good for the Lions, bad for anyone forced to watch them "play."	Well, his career already is dead, time to cryogenically freeze it.	I wonder ... Earn a couple mil, and his competition for that \$\$ is Dan Orlovsky. Tough call.	Good idea. Nothing bad has ever happened to the Lions. The 0-7 Lions.	Dante Alighieri would be an upgrade over Dan Orlovsky.
5 Tell me everything you know about the Chicago Fire.	They are Chicago's most successful team—at least this week.	A disaster caused by kicking cows.	They play in Toyota Park, which, oddly enough, is what Bag Boy calls his home too.	Something about barns, cows, headers. Or was that the "movie" Jimmy was watching?	I know too much to fit in this tiny space. Plus, I never joke about hockey.

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I'm feeling good today. You know, the kind of contentment that can be ruined only by a Chicago sports team flopping in the playoffs. Let's not go through more heartbreak tonight. I'm looking at you, Fire. Here now, my picks.

**MLS
PLAYOFFS**
**Fire at
New
England**
6:30 p.m. ESPN2

You say you want a Revolution? For the Fire, they get the Revolution every time they make the playoffs.

**COLLEGE
FOOTBALL**
**S. Florida
at
Cincinnati**
6:30 p.m. ESPN
C'mon, Bulls. You gotta take down the Bearcats, for all of your canine buddies.

NBA
**Houston
at Dallas**
7 p.m. TNT
You think Mavs owner Mark Cuban still wants to buy the Cubs after their playoff flop?

**N. Orleans
at Phoenix**
9:30 p.m. TNT
Shaq was angry in the off-season. Let's see if he takes it out on the Hornets.
WORLD SERIES | GAME 5 | PHILLIES 4, RAYS 3 PHILLIES WIN SERIES 4-1

The Philadelphia Phillies celebrate Wednesday after clinching the World Series. AP PHOTO

PHILLY FANATICS

Phillies capture their first title in 28 years

From losingest team to longest game, the Philadelphia Phillies are World Series champions.

Strange as that sounds.

Strange as it was.

Brad Lidge and the Phillies finished off the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in a three-inning sprint Wednesday night to win a suspended Game 5 nearly 50 hours after it started.

Left in limbo by a two-day rainstorm, the Phillies seesawed to their first championship since 1980. Pedro Feliz singled home the go-ahead run in the seventh, and Lidge closed out his perfect season to deliver the title Philly craved for so long.

"It's over," Phillies shortstop Jimmy Rollins said. "It's over, man."

Bundled in parkas and blankets, fans returned in force to Citizens Bank Park and saw the city claim its first major sports championship in 25 years. No more references needed to those sad-sack Phillies teams in the past and their 10,000-plus losses.

Once known as a city of champions, Philadelphia sports fell on hard times after Julius Erving and Moses Malone led the Sixers to the 1983 title.

Since then, the Phillies, Eagles, Sixers and Flyers made it to the championship game or round—seven times, in total—and lost all of them.

Senators want games on TV

Senators have asked NFL commissioner Roger Goodell to make more games available to fans on the NFL Network. The NFL says it provides free broadcasts in teams' home cities. But 13 lawmakers said in a letter this week to Goodell. "The policy leaves behind NFL fans across the country simply because they live outside cities to which the NFL has granted franchise."

HOMETOWN HITS

A friend of Jennifer Hudson's family contacted Bears defensive tackle Tommie Harris to see whether Harris would donate a jersey to help pay tribute to one of the victims of the South Side tragedy. "I would like to give them a personal jersey," Harris said after practice Wednesday. Harris has been friends with the Academy Award-winning actress from Chicago for a couple of years.



Si.com, citing "people familiar with" the White Sox's thinking, said the White Sox will allow Ken Griffey Jr. to explore free agency.



The Bulls' Tyrus Thomas and Derrick Rose skipped practice Wednesday with minor soreness.



Forbes announced its 2008 NHL team values Wednesday, declaring the Hawks' value has increased 14 percent since last year to \$205 million, 14th highest of the 30 teams.



After a two-hour surgery Tuesday to reconnect ligaments in his left wrist, doctors at Glenview's Illinois Bone and Joint Institute said Northwestern running back Tyrell Sutton would be unable to return to football for six to 12 weeks, according to Sutton's mother, Connie Sutton.

Quarterback C.J. Bacher does not have a tear of his right hamstring, according to his father, K.C. He said magnetic resonance imaging results ruled out a tear.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

WOLVES 6, Providence 0



COPS AND JOCKS

Athletes can't seem to stay out of trouble, and we can't seem to look away.

Daly arrested at Hooters

Golfer John Daly was taken into custody Sunday by Winston-Salem, N.C., police after he was found drunk outside a Hooters. Police said Wednesday that officers went to the restaurant and found Daly being treated by emergency workers after losing consciousness. While at the restaurant, police said Daly "appeared extremely intoxicated and uncooperative," refused to be taken to the hospital and was asked to leave the restaurant by workers.

Oden out—again

Portland Trail Blazers center Greg Oden will be out four-to-six weeks with a mid-lateral sprain on his right foot. The 7-foot center was the top pick in the 2007 draft but did not play last season after he had microfracture surgery on his right knee.



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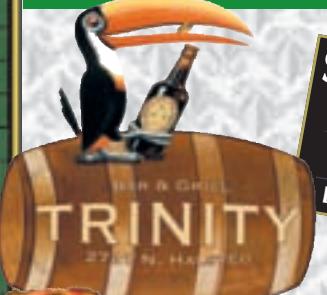
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Action figures

Dress to impress and increase your odds of a Halloween hookup

By Erin Osmom

Candy bars and haunted houses are fun and all, but we know the real reason adults spend so much time squeezing into last year's Superman tights on Halloween: the potential for hooking up. Soon enough, bars around town will be filled with naughty librarians, devilish angels and sexy gladiators on the hunt for an ill-advised encounter. So you don't get shot down before you can say "Hey baby," we've honed in on the likely prospects at four parties, plus a second stop to further your chances. The rest is up to you.

Dark Wave Disco Halloween

Sonotheque, 1444 W. Chicago Ave. 312-226-7600

The party: DJs Mark Gertz and Trancid of The Dark Wave Disco crew take over this West Town club Friday along with guests Kid Color and L.A.-based Villains. Drink deals include \$3 312 drafts and \$4 Svedka vodka. 9 p.m. \$8-\$12.

Your prospect: A Mac guy (i.e. the Vans-wearing dude with the iPhone and \$100 haircut who was too cool to dress up)

Dress as: A PC guy. Win the heart of the Mac by admitting he was right and denouncing your dorky PC ways forever. Tousle your comb-over and shed your suit to reveal a sweet graphic tee and an iPod full of Swedish remixes.

Next stop: Seal the deal by heading down the street to **The Continental** (2801 W. Chicago Ave. 773-292-1200), where there's never a cover and the beats stretch on until 4 a.m.



Halloween Thing 2008

Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508

The party: Vie for a \$250 costume contest prize at this Friday bash, where DJ Mister Wolf spins and Haulin' Boats plays swingin' '70s classics. 10:30 p.m. \$6.

Your prospect: Sarah Palin
Dress as: Joe the Plumber.

Carry a plunger and zero in on one of the (likely many) girls or guys dressed as Palin. Break the Alaskan ice over \$3 Goose Island 312 drafts by thanking her for boosting you to semi-celeb status with multiple shout-outs in her speeches.

Next stop: Whisk her away to **Will's Northwoods Inn** (3030 N. Racine Ave. 773-528-4400), where the wall-mounted fish and antler chandeliers will make her feel right at home. Remember to be a gentleman by offering her your Buckeyes hoodie. It's cold up there in Lakeview.



'80s Halloween

Martini Park, 151 W. Erie St. 312-640-0577

The party: The Spazmatics play at this Thursday costume ball with \$500 for the best '80s get-up. 8 p.m. No cover for ladies; \$10 for guys.

Your prospect: Gem from the cartoon series "Gem & The Holograms"

Dress as: Lion-O from "Thundercats." Compliment her on a "truly outrageous" outfit before offering a round to Gem and her rock-band posse.

Next stop: After reminding her what a Thundercat is (that'd be a feline/human/alien hybrid from the planet of Thundera), offer to use your "sight beyond sight" powers to gauge the line outside of **The Underground** (56 W. Illinois St. 312-644-7600), where you can reminisce about Saturday morning cartoons over Kool-Aid cosmopolitans (\$10) and old-school '80s and '90s remixes after 11 p.m. You might even spot Michelle Williams of Destiny's Child, who'll be there celebrating her album release. \$20 cover.

A Date with the Dead: Halloween Fetish Ball & Play Party

The Kinetic Playground, 1113 W. Lawrence Ave. 773-769-5483

The party: This risqué Saturday party boasts a leather and latex-filled fetish fashion show, burlesque performances and ghoulish tunes by DJ Peter Propaganda and END: the DJ. 9 p.m. \$25-\$35.

Your prospect: Hair-extensioned, leather-wearing, comeback Britney

Dress as: Nervous-breakdown, shaved-head, wig-wearing Britney. Sweet talk your potential hookup by recounting the good ol' days of Spears scandals: "Remember when we Frenched Madonna? That was awesome." Or compliment her on a killer comeback. "Look at you. How'd you get so hot? I'm still a hot mess."

Next stop: Who can hear over all those hot bodies? Promise to be a slave for her if she'll cozy up for \$7 double drafts and conversation a few blocks down at neighborhood hang **T's** (5025 N. Clark St. 773-784-6000).

ERIN OSMON IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.
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BY JULIA BORCHERTS
[metromix@tribune.com](http://metromix.tribune.com)

THURSDAY FREEBIE

Sketchy behavior

Evil Olive, 1551 W. Division Ave. 773-235-9100.

For a cheap thrill, grab a costume and head to the Halloween edition of the **Atomic Sketch Event** to watch eight featured artists create on-the-spot paintings, drawings and more, then sell them for low prices (between \$1-\$50). More of a starving artist than a collector? Don a costume, BYO art supplies and join in. For inspiration, sip \$5 Templeton Rye cocktails. 6 p.m.

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Creepy crawl-y

Plan B, 1635 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-252-2680.

Invite otherworldly spirits to partake in the more drinkable variety at **Boo & Brew: The Haunted Pub Crawl Tour**. Meet at Plan B for a cocktail reception, then board a bus with ghost hunter Richard Crowe for a tour of four allegedly haunted bars, including Ethyl's Party (2600 S. Wentworth Ave.), a former Chinatown funeral parlor with an old embalming room and a DJ stand where the coffins used to sit. Revive your own spirits with drink specials and post-tour cocktails back at Plan B. 7 p.m. \$40.

Tails from the crypt

Witt's, 2913 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-528-7032.

Celebrate Halloween Eve with your pooch at the **Mondog Fall Fundraiser and Dog Costume Party** to benefit maintenance at Montrose Dog Beach. Festivities include a costume contest for Fido and for you, a raffle, and themed drink specials such as a Mondog-tini, Paws on the Beach and (eek!) Bowzer's Blue Ballz. 6 p.m. Donations suggested.

Comfort-food comedy

Gorilla Tango Theatre, 1919 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-598-4549.

As their name implies, local sketch troupe Yeti Crocker takes inspiration from two cultural icons: Betty and Bigfoot. See the group's new civil disobedience-themed revue, "**Yeti Crocker: Big Feet. Big Shoes. No Service!**" about the plights of gracious homemakers and abominable snowmen. 9:30 p.m. Through Nov. 6. \$10.

**fri
31**

Long's shot

Paddy Long's, 1028 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-290-6988.

The phrase "killer costume" takes on new meaning at Paddy Long's "**Beeker Must Die Costume Party**", where your seasonal get-up might help knock reigning "best costume" champ Beeker out of the catbird seat. Additional festivities include a DJ and an optional \$30 premium drink package (9 p.m.-midnight). 9 p.m. No cover.

**sat
1**

Zine scene

Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. 312-397-4010.

Can't wait till Election Day to express yourself? Dive into self-publishing at **Saturday Shorts**, where zinester and former Punk Planet writer, editor and publisher Anne Elizabeth Moore leads a workshop on making your own small book, inspired by the new Jenny Holzer exhibition about the intersection of language and art. 1 p.m. \$40-\$45.

HOW TO REACH US |

FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO METROMIX.COM.

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune.

For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at mmcguire@tribune.com

To submit event information for Metromix or metromix.com, go to metromix.com/listings.com



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523 A.D.

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THURS 10/30

All Hallows Art Show

New Dark & Eerie Artwork \$4 Smirnoff Flavror Drinks
Half-Price Appetizers Dead Rocker DJ Plus Live Music w/

Old Black & Blue Eyes & The Electrodes

HARD ROCK RAT PACK TUNES! PUNK ROCK FROM THE CRYPT!

FRIDAY 10/31

HALLOWEEN

It's An Old School Thrilla!

DJ SCRATCH-N-SNIFF, COSTUME CONTESTS, CRAZY FUN...

SATURDAY 11/1

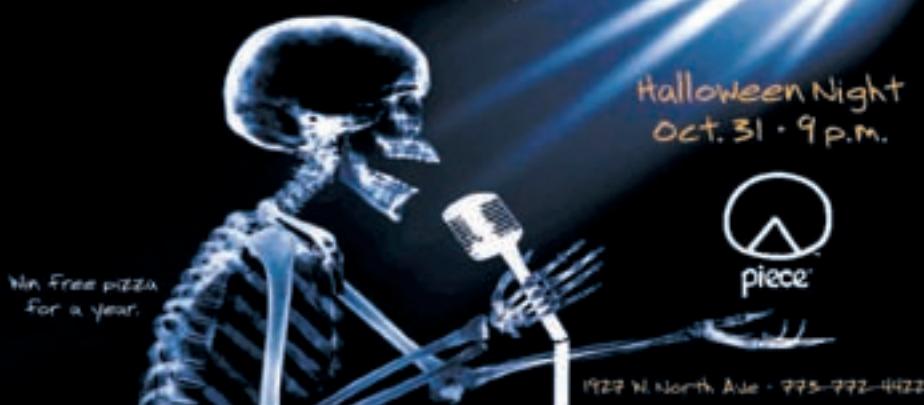
NIGHT OF THE DANCING DEAD

TODD MODD HORROR RETRO PARTY!

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2051 W. DIVISION WICKER PARK 773-394-2066

Live Band
Costume Karaoke Party.



And watch something really scary on Nov. 4.



Watch the election returns here. Prepare to celebrate with
\$1 Golden Arms, or cry in your beer wearing free candidate masks.

piecechicago.com



Three's company

Sip on \$3 vodka cocktails at Villains in the South Loop. **FILE FOR METROMIX**

AVENUE TAVERN

\$5 specialty martinis;
2916 N. Broadway. 773-975-7000.

art and create mixed

media works, paintings,
drawings and more on
site. Browsers can buy
the works at affordable
prices ranging from \$1-
\$50. Artists are invited
to dress in costume
and BYO sketch and
paint materials to
create their own pieces
to display and sell.

\$5 Templeton Rye
cocktails. No cover; 1551
W. Division St. 773-235-
9100.

icons. No cover; 3700
N. Halsted St. 773-525-
1111.

THE LODGE TAVERN

\$5 Captain and colas,
Smirnoff lemonades
and Cuervo shots; 21
W. Division St. 312-642-
4406.

p.m. \$25 after 11 p.m.;
116 W. Hubbard St. 312-
329-9960.

PADDY LONG'S

\$3 Jager shots, \$3.50
Corona and Pacifico
bottles, \$5 jumbo
Smirnoff you-call-it
cocktails, \$6 burgers
with fries; 1028 W.
Diversey Pkwy. 773-
290-6988.

PEOPLE LOUNGE

\$4 Goose Island drafts,
\$5 Maker's Mark
cocktails, DJ Abducted
and guests spin soul,
hip-hop and world
music 9 p.m.; 1560 N.
Milwaukee Ave. 773-
227-9339.

SEDGWICK'S

25 cent wings, \$3 select
cocktails, \$5 bombs, \$8
domestic pitchers; 1935
N. Sedgwick St. 312-337-
7900.

SULLY'S HOUSE TAP ROOM AND GRILL

Half-price martinis and
bottles of wine; 1501
N. Dayton St. 312-929-
2779.

VILLAINS

\$3 vodka drinks, \$4
Beamish drafts; 649 S.
Clark St. 312-356-9992.

ZIPPO

8 p.m.: Singles
Halloween Speed
Dating Party. Meet
other singles (ages
20-30) for fast dates.
Costumes optional.
No cover, two drink
minimum. Registration
required: dateanddash.com; 3759 N. Damen
Ave. 800-957-3274.

THE GRAND CENTRAL

\$2 well drinks, half-
price appetizers,
half-price bottles of
wine, live acoustic
guitar 9 p.m.; 950 W.
Wrightwood Ave. 773-
832-4000.

MOONSHINE

9:15 p.m.: Rock Steady.

Live bands play indie,

garage, grunge or

punk. \$4 Moonshine

Brewery drafts, \$5

pumpkin margaritas;

1824 W. Division St. 773-
862-8686.

DARKROOM

9 p.m.: Barry R. Bone's

Burlesque Brothel.

Red Hot Annie, Pearl

Pistol, Naughty

Natanya, Salome

Slaughter, Chasity

Chaos, Lady Jack and

Siren Jinx perform

in a Halloween-

themed show full

of tricks, treats and

mischief. Includes

an appearance by

Chicago Outfit Derby

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Vixens. \$10-\$13; 2210

W. Chicago Ave. 773-
276-1411.

THE HANGGE-UPPE

\$5 Captain Morgan

and Cokes, Smirnoff

lemonades and Cuervo

shots, DJs spin; 14 W.

Elm St. 312-337-0561.

HOUNDSTOOOTH

\$1 sliders, \$3 SoCo Lime

and Jameson shots, \$5

pitchers; 3438 N. Clark

St. 773-244-1166.

KIT KAT LOUNGE

AND SUPPER CLUB

5:30 p.m.: '80s

Flashback Night. Watch

a different 1980s flick

each week on five

jumbo screens (7 p.m.).

Includes \$15 tarot

readings, retro menu

items, \$5 VOX cocktails

and half-price bottles of

wine with the purchase

of two entrees. The

Kit Kat Divas perform

as '80s pop stars and

Billy the Kid spins 10:30

to 11 p.m. 1501 N. Clark

St. 773-528-2622.

NV PENTHOUSE

LOUNGE

9 p.m.: Bewitched by

Bubbles. Features

a hosted Belvedere

reception (9-10 p.m.),

\$10 flutes and \$125

bottles of Veuve

Clicquot Yellow Label

and a \$350 Belvedere

and Veuve Clicquot

Yellow Label bottle

service package. DJ

Billy the Kid spins 10:30

to 11 p.m. 1501 N. Clark

St. 773-528-2622.

MERKLE'S
THURSDAY
STARTING AT 8PM
PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE

FRIDAY
9PM-MIDNIGHT
\$25 MEAL PACKAGE
DRAFFTS - WELLS - WINE

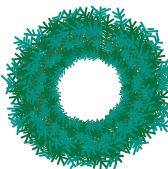
\$200 CASH PRIZE
BEST COSTUME

BAD DOG TAVERN
THURSDAY
STARTING AT 8PM
PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE

FRIDAY
10PM - 1AM
\$30 MEAL PACKAGE
DRAFFTS - WELLS - WINE

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Cuban revelation

By M. Kathleen Pratt

Alberto Gonzalez, the owner of new Cuban spot 90 Miles, has impeccable timing. A former mortgage broker, he couldn't have picked a better year to get out of his old line of work and open a restaurant that sells nothing priced more than \$10.

The cafe, which Gonzalez runs with his wife, Christine, drew an almost instant following when it opened in early September. The tiny, counter-seating-only dining room is often so packed that folks happily eat while standing up, and Gonzalez tells us he's already looking into expanding.

One bite of a 90 Miles sandwich and you'll understand why business is booming. The menu, which includes entrees and inexpensive snacks such as tostones and croquetas in addition to those addictive sandwiches, is based on time-tested family recipes (Gonzalez's grandparents worked in the catering business in Cuba before the Castro years).

The atmosphere doesn't hurt either. The enthusiastic Gonzalez, who was born in Cuba in the late '60s and

2 for \$20

**90 Miles
Cuban Cafe**
3101 N. Clybourn Ave.
773-248-2822

came to the U.S. during the Mariel Boatlift in 1980, is almost always behind the counter. Ask for a recommendation and he'll steer you toward the sandwiches, a lineup that includes the 90 Miles take on a classic lechon (roasted pork) sandwich—Gonzalez includes a slice of sweet plantain to offset the grilled onions and spicy garlic mojo.

Most sandwiches, including a tasty 8-inch Cubano, are just \$6.50. Full dinner plates such as ropa vieja include rice, black beans and plantains and clock in at \$9.95. You can wash it all down with a Cuban soft drink like Ironbeer (sort of a Cuban version of Dr. Pepper) or Jupina (pineapple soda) for \$1.25.

Though it's easy to keep your tab under \$20, there's just one problem: You'll be back to drop another \$20.

M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE
METROMIX DINING PRODUCER.
KPRATT@METROMIX.COM



The haul: One shared appetizer, two sandwiches, two drinks
JASON LITTLE FOR METROMIX

It's Our Pleasure to Serve You				
DATE	SERVER	PERSONS	GRATUITY	CHECK NO.
TABLE NO.				
1	Croquetas: \$2.50			
2	Cubano sandwich: \$6.50			
3	Lechon sandwich: \$6.50			
4	Jupina: \$1.25			
5	Iron Beer: \$1.25			
6	+			
7	Tax: \$1.85			
8	TOTAL: \$19.85			
9				
10				

What is 2 for \$20?

So your wallet's feeling a little lighter lately? Yeah, we hear you. It's rough all over. We're feeling the squeeze too—but when the going gets tough, sometimes it's the little luxuries that get you through.

That's why we've launched 2 for \$20. Once a month, we'll set out with no more than two Hamiltons in our pocket. The task: Feed two hungry people—and feed them well.

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PACKAGE 9PM - 1AM
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Monday \$15 Buckets



Sunday
\$4 Coors Light Stadium Cups
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Saturday
\$3 Coors Light Drafts



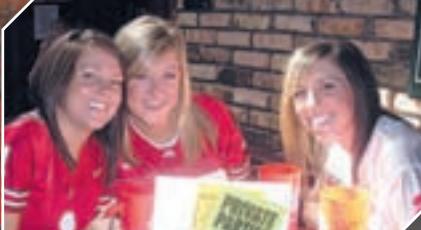
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Illinois vs. Iowa
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N. LINCOLN
773.525.3632



SUNDAY
12PM
Bears vs. Lions
2251
N. LINCOLN
773.348.5100



SUNDAY
12PM
Bears vs. Lions
3551
N. SHEFFIELD
773.327.7800

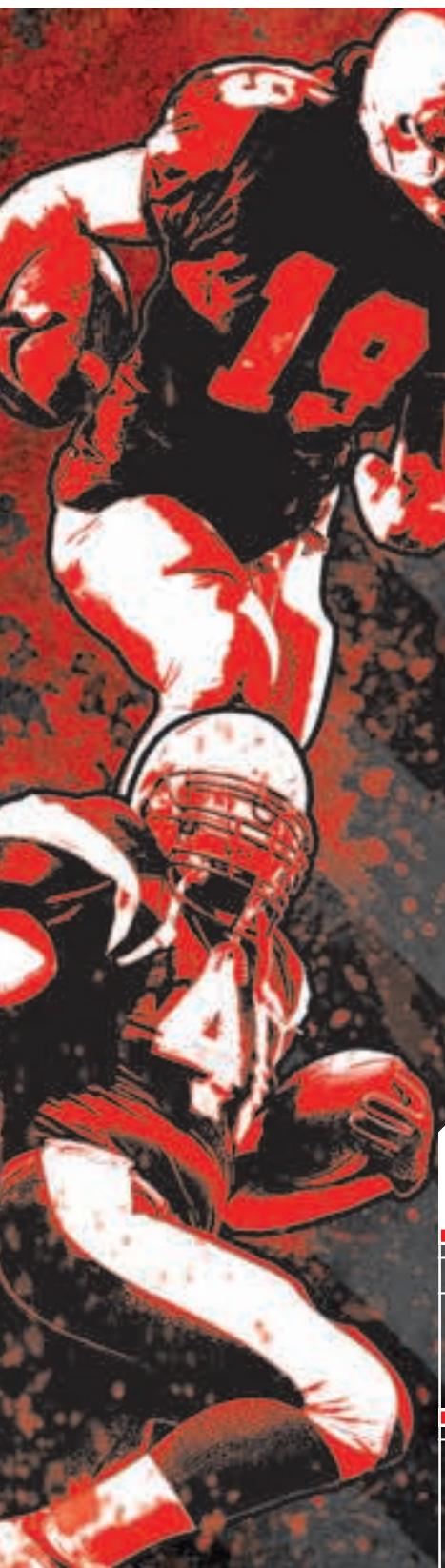


SUNDAY
12PM
Browns vs. Ravens
2917
N. SHEFFIELD
773.281.8188



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this season for our **REDEYE RAIDS RECAP**
to see if we caught you in scoring position!





**Coors
LIGHT**



REDEYE

10pin SATURDAY - \$3.75 Coronas	BAD DOG TAVERN SATURDAY TENNESSE FOOTBALL \$4 22oz. Bud Light Drafts \$5 Jack Drinks \$5 Bombs \$5 Bloody Bar	RED EYE RAID SAT • 2:30PM cans BAR AND CANTEEN SATURDAY \$6 Ketel One Bloody Mary's \$5 Ketel One Screwdrivers 6/\$15 Buckets of Coors Light \$4 Ketel Citron Lemon Drops \$3 - 1/4 lb Burger with Fries	OSU Specials: \$10 32-oz OSU Mugs, \$6 Refills Tressel Burgers NachO-H-I-Os \$15 Great Lakes Microbrew Mix Buckets \$3 Mimosas \$5 Absolut Bloody Marys \$5 Brunch Menu until 2 pm	CASEY'S SATURDAY \$6 Bloody Mary Bar	CHICAGO CENTRAL SATURDAY \$10 All You Can Eat Brunch Buffet (11am-3pm) \$3 Coors Lt Drafts \$3 Bloody Mary's \$3 Mimosas	CHICAGO ALE HOUSE SATURDAY \$15 Call Cocktail mini pitchers \$6.75 40z beers	CHICAGO CANDY HOUSE SATURDAY \$6 Build your own Ketel One Bloody Marys	CHICAGO GARAGE SATURDAY \$1/2 off appetizers \$3 Jameson 22oz Bud draft (\$1 refill)
SUNDAY - \$3.00 Miller Lites - Parlay card - make college & pro picks to win prize packs from Corona & Miller Lite & also be entered into a drawing to win a 32 inch LCD TV.	SUNDAY \$12 Coors/Lite Buckets \$4 22oz. Lite Drafts \$5 Bloody Bar \$5 Bombs	SUNDAY \$6 Ketel One Bloody Mary's \$5 Ketel One Screwdrivers \$5 Mimosas 6/\$15 Buckets of Coors Light 25¢ Wings	SUNDAY \$2 Domestic Cans	SUNDAY \$10 All You Can Eat Brunch Buffet (11am-3pm) \$3 Miller Lite Browns Mugs, \$6 Refills \$15 Great Lakes Microbrew Mix Buckets \$3 Mimosas \$5 Absolut Bloody Marys \$5 Brunch Menu until 2 pm	SUNDAY \$10 All You Can Eat Brunch Buffet (11am-3pm) \$3 Miller Lt Drafts \$3 Bloody Mary's \$3 Mimosas \$3 Bombs	SUNDAY \$2 Miller Lite drafts \$3 SoCo lime shots \$5 Bombs \$5 Jack Free Food buffet	SUNDAY \$6 Build your own Ketel One Bloody Marys	SUNDAY \$1/2 off appetizers \$3 Jameson 22oz Bud draft (\$1 refill)
MONDAY - \$3.00 Miller Lites - Parlay card - make college & pro picks to win prize packs from Corona & Miller Lite & also be entered into a drawing to win a 32 inch LCD TV.	MONDAY \$2.50 Dom. Btls. 1/2 off Apps.	MONDAY \$6 Miller Lite Pitchers \$3.50 Jack and Cokes \$1 Burgers	MONDAY 35¢ Wing Night	MONDAY *Only when Bears or Browns play: \$12 Miller Lite Buckets \$10 32-ounce Miller Lite Browns Mugs, \$6 Refills \$15 Great Lakes Mixed Buckets 25¢ Buffalo Wings	MONDAY \$3 Burgers \$3 Chicken Caesar Wraps \$2 Miller Lite Bottles/Drafts \$3 Bombs	MONDAY \$1 domestic drafts \$3 Effen cocktails	MONDAY \$3 domestics \$4 imports \$10 pitchers of Sangria and Margaritas	MONDAY \$6 Sand \$5 Blood \$4 Scre
330 N. STATE 312.644.0300	4535 N. LINCOLN 773.334.4040	3210 N. LINCOLN 773.525.3632	1640 N. DAMEN 773.227.2277	3660 N. CLARK 773.755.4444	3466 N. CLARK 773.880.2222	2200 W. LAWRENCE 773.275.2020	950 W. WOLFRAM 773.665.5660	1645 W. CORTLAND 773.862.7877
JOE'S SATURDAY \$7 Pitchers of Coors Light \$6 Hand Crafted Bloody Mary Pints	JUNIOR'S SATURDAY \$3 Red Bull Bombs	KIRKMAN SATURDAY \$4 Mimosas and Bloody Marys	RED EYE RAID SUN • 12PM LionHead Pub \$2.75 Bud Light Drafts \$2.75 Smirnoff Bloody Marys 25¢ Wings til 6pm Home of Northwestern	LUCKY STRIKE LANES SATURDAY \$10 Coors Light Pitchers \$6 Miller and Coors 32oz Schooners \$.25 Wings	LUCKY STRIKE LANES SATURDAY All you can eat buffet \$15.95 Bloody Mary Bar \$15 buckets \$4 drafts \$4 bombs	LUCKY STRIKE LANES SATURDAY Brunch with Mimosa Bar \$13 Domestic Buckets \$4 20oz. Miller Lite Drafts	McGEE'S TAVERN & GRILLE SATURDAY \$12 OSU Football Brunch from 10am-3pm \$6.50 Bloody Mary Bar	IOWA FOOTBALL SATURDAY \$4 22oz. Bud Light Drafts \$5 Bombs
SUNDAY \$3 Rolling Rocks and Iron City Bottles	SUNDAY \$3 Miller Lite bottles	SUNDAY \$4 Mimosas and Bloody Marys	SUNDAY \$2.50 Miller Lite Drafts \$2.75 Smirnoff Bloody Marys 25¢ Wings til 6pm	SUNDAY \$4 20oz Miller Lite Drafts \$5 mini burgers \$4 Bloody Mary Pints	SUNDAY All you can eat buffet \$15.95 Bloody Mary Bar \$15 buckets \$4 drafts \$4 bombs	SUNDAY Brunch with Mimosa Bar \$13 Domestic Buckets \$4 20oz. Miller Lite Drafts	SUNDAY \$12 Coors/Lite Buckets \$4 22oz Lite Drafts \$3 Jameson \$5 Bombs \$5 Bloody Bar 25¢ wings	SUNDAY \$15 Buckets of Coors light \$3 Miller lite pints \$1.50 mini cheeseburgers & \$1.50 cups of chili from 11-5
MONDAY \$5 Sauza Frozen Margaritas and Frozen Beam and Cokes	MONDAY \$3 Miller Lite bottles	MONDAY 1/2 priced apps	MONDAY \$1.50 Coors Light Drafts \$6.99 NY Strip Steak	MONDAY \$15 Coors Lite Buckets \$1 Crunchy Tacos	MONDAY \$15 Buckets \$4 Bombs	MONDAY \$4 20oz. Miller Lite Drafts GROUP PACKAGES AVAILABLE	MONDAY \$1 Tacos \$2 Landsharks \$3 Coronas	MONDAY \$2.75 Miller Lt Pints \$6 Bloody Mary \$6 Cuervo margaritas, mojitos, raspberry vodka & lemons \$14 Buckets of Corona/Corona Lt \$1.50 mini cheeseburgers & \$1.50 cups of chili from 11-5
940 W. WEED 312.337.3486	724 W. MAXWELL 312.421.2277	661 N. CLARK 312.335.8121	2251 N. LINCOLN 773.348.5100	1925 W. CORTLAND 773.489.0738	322 E. ILLINOIS 312.245.8331	1206 N. STATE PKWY. 312.475.9450	3616 N. CLARK 773.244.1025	3443 N. SOUTHPORT 773.528.8226

RedEye & Metromix have teamed up with your favorite bars & pubs to
Swing in for food & drink deals and check back here every Thursday during the

RedZone



metromix

LEN'S CY'S CRAB HOUSE

DAY
- All
- ers
- son shots
- d Light
- 10 mug, \$4

DAY
- wches
- ty Mary
- ddrivers

DAY
- ll entrees
- ll bottles
- drunks

IMPORT
- 5.0600

CY'S CRAB HOUSE


SATURDAY
SUNDAY
MONDAY

- Watch all NFL

games on our huge

HDTVs!

- Combo Platter

(wings, rib tips,

calamari) \$8.95

- All domestic

drafts \$3

- Cy's Mai Tai \$4.50

- Buy one bottle of

wine, get one 1/2

price!

- Oysters 60¢ each

- Shrimp 75¢ each

- Wings 35¢ each

- \$2 Hamburgers

(At bar only with

two beverage

minimum)

- Free parking!

- \$1 burgers

- \$5 Salads

- \$15 Buckets and

\$30 Barrels of

Corona, Corona

Light and Pacifico

- \$3 You-call-its

DUFFY'S


SATURDAY
SUNDAY
MONDAY

- \$10 buckets of

domestic bottles

- Michigan

Football, Brunch

from 10am-3pm

- \$5.50 Bloody Mary

Bar

- \$3 Iron City

bottles

- We show ALL Pro

Games

- Huge Brunch

Buffet - \$15.95

from 10am-3pm

- \$5.50 Bloody Mary

Bar

- \$1 You-call-its

- \$1 Coors Light

- \$5 Salads

- \$15 Buckets and

\$30 Barrels of

Corona, Corona

Light and Pacifico

- \$3 You-call-its

DURKIN'S

finn McCool's

McGRADY'S

REDEYE RAID SUN • 12PM

HARRI CARAY'S TAVERN

innjoy

WILMINGTON TAP

THE WRIGHTWOOD TAP

YARD

SATURDAY
SUNDAY
MONDAY

- Michigan

Football, Brunch

from 10am-3pm

- \$5.50 Bloody Mary

Bar

- College Football

Feast, \$25 Meal

Package Includes

All Day Cookout &

Domestic Drafts

from 9am-5pm

- \$3.50 Bud Light

Drafts

- \$4 Smirnoff Bloody

Marys

- 25¢ Wings

- \$3.99 1/2 lb. Black

Angus Cheeseburger

w/Fries til 6pm.

- Home of Michigan St.

- \$3.50 Miller Lite

Drafts

- \$4 Smirnoff Bloody

Marys

- 25¢ Wings

- \$3.99 1/2 lb.

Black Angus

Cheeseburger w/

Fries til 6pm

- \$10 All You Can

Eat Brunch Buffet

(11am-3pm)

- \$3 Coors Light

Drafts

- \$3 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Mimosas

- \$5.00 Svedka

Drinks

- \$10 All You Can

Eat Brunch Buffet

(11am-3pm)

- \$3 Miller Lite

Drafts

- \$3 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Mimosas

- \$5.00 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Bombs

- \$10 All You Can

Eat Brunch Buffet

(11am-3pm)

- \$3 Miller Lite

Drafts

- \$3 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Mimosas

- \$5.00 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Bombs

- \$10 All You Can

Eat Brunch Buffet

(11am-3pm)

- \$3 Miller Lite

Drafts

- \$3 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Mimosas

- \$5.00 Bloody Mary's

- \$3 Bombs

- \$10 All You Can

Eat Brunch Buffet

(11am-3pm)

- \$3 Miller Lite

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- \$3 Bloody Mary's

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Chandeliers

Chandel with care

Chandeliers let their music do the talking

By Kent Green

The Chandeliers' songs should come with an instruction manual. Something needs to tell people what to do.

The layered, electro-jazz numbers change pace enough that you want to pause and listen. But they're too up-tempo for simple head-nodding. And you sure can't sing along, unless you're R2-D2 or Beaker.

Of course, this amorphous identity is exactly what the band wants.

The bandmates, Harry Brenner, Chris Kalis, Dan Jugle and Scott McGaughey, all handle multiple instruments, and their roles constantly change. The foursome came together through their other bands, which include Icy Demons and the Killer Whales.

But Kalis says they're careful to keep Chandeliers separate.

"It's kind of more mysterious than other

chitunes

Chandeliers

When: 9 p.m., Sunday
Where: Bottom Lounge with Dungen, 1375 W. Lake St. (18+)
► Listen to all of the Chandeliers' debut LP, "The Thrush," at thechandeliers.com.

bands," he says. "There's not a frontman that gives you this personality right away. It's interesting to not give you that and just give you the music."

Chandeliers adds beats to songs and speeds them up to make them more danceable when playing live.

The shows also benefit from the band's use of actual instruments, which Kalis said helps create a more visually interesting experience than watching someone play samples on a laptop.

The band has been working on new songs and may have its follow-up album ready by next summer. Kalis says they've been exploring the boundaries of the band's sound.

"We get surprised too, as the listener would," Kalis says. "There's no boundaries to what we're doing." **KENT GREEN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**

Music from 'Mars'

Here's the playlist for Thursday's "Life on Mars" episode.

Song	Artist
"Mother and Child Reunion"	Paul Simon
"Rock and Roll"	Velvet Underground
"Get It On"	T. Rex
"Lucky Lady"	Jones Brothers
"20th Century Man"	Kinks
"Long Cool Woman in a Black Dress"	The Hollies
"Long Promised Road"	The Beach Boys

You can hear all the greatest hits from 1973 on "Life on Mars Radio" at abc.com.

SOURCE: ABC

"Mars" star
Jason O'Mara
ABC



On the download

Top downloaded songs from Oct. 20-27

Chicago Top 10

No.	Song, Artist	LW
1	"Disturbia," Rihanna	1
2	"Closer," Ne-Yo	6
3	"Live Your Life," T.I. with Rihanna	3
4	"Whatever You Like," T.I.	2
5	"Paper Planes," M.I.A.	4
6	"So What," Pink	9
7	"Miss Independent," Ne-Yo	15
8	"Hot N Cold," Katy Perry	13
9	"My Life," The Game	7
10	"Can't Believe It," T-pain	5

National Top 10

No.	Song, Artist	LW
1	"Disturbia," Rihanna	2
2	"Whatever You Like," T.I.	1
3	"Closer," Ne-Yo	8
4	"Live Your Life," T.I. with Rihanna	3
5	"Paper Planes," M.I.A.	5
6	"Miss Independent," Ne-Yo	12
7	"So What," Pink	7
8	"Hot N Cold," Katy Perry	16
9	"Can't Believe It," T-pain	4
10	"My Life," The Game	6

LW INDICATES LAST WEEK'S CHART POSITION/
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AMY RAY

12:30 p.m. Free. Borders Books & Music, 150 N. State St. 312-606-0750.

BITCUT AND THE MIX

9:30 p.m. \$7. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

CEDAR WALTON QUARTET

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

COHEED AND CAMBRIA

7:30 p.m. \$28.50. Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine Ave. 312-559-1212.

COME SUNDAY, THE BROTHERS LAZAROFF

8 p.m. \$10. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

COPELAND, LOVERDRUG, LYDIA, LIGHTS

6 p.m. \$13-\$15. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

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Locals impersonate the stars. Can't miss it. 8:30 p.m. \$8-\$10. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

AC/DC

The boys are back, and the phrase "It's too loud" still isn't in their vocabulary. With The Answer.

7:30 p.m. Sold out. Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Rd., Rosemont. 312-559-1212.

DONAVON FRANKENREITER

Laid-back pop feels like being washed out to sea. With Sara Watkins. 9 p.m. \$18. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

GWAR

Now that's a Halloween costume. With Kingdom of Sorrow, Toxic Holocaust. 9 p.m. \$21-\$23. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

**Donavon Frankenreiter****DEVIL IN A WOODPILE, CHRASH FLOOD, THE ARTS OF LIFE BAND**

9:30 p.m. \$7. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

DEVIL LOCKS, SOBRE, RE. D LA PARKA, KILLING THE ENEMY

8 p.m. Cover varies. Reggie's Rock Club,

2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

FRANK RUSSEL

7 p.m. \$5. Close Up 2-Live Smooth Jazz Club, 416 S. Clark St. 312-385-1111.

HEATHER O'NEILL

9 p.m. Free. Wild Rover, 6001 N. Paulina Ave. 773-743-2400.

HIJAZZ

7:30 p.m. \$12-\$15. The Morse Theatre, 1328 Morse Ave. 773-654-5100.

JEFFREY FOUCault, KRIS DELMHORST

8 p.m. \$18. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

JIMMY BENNINGTON'S COLOUR AND SOUND

9 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

JOAN OF ARC, IKONG KULT

9 p.m. \$8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

LONG GONE LONESOME BOYS, THE SCREAMING BLUEDOGS

8 p.m. \$5. Fitzgerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

LORDS, THE POISON ARROWS, AVENUE BOULEVARD

9:30 p.m. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444. housecallent.com

MOLEHILL, LAND OF ATLANTIS

9 p.m. \$6. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

THE NASHVILLE WRECKERS, METROVOX, DELAMANCHA, DARLYNE CAIN

8:30 p.m. \$8. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

NELLIE TRAVIS

9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

NORMA JEAN, HASTE THE DAY, THE SHOWDOWN, MYCHILDREN MYBRIDE, OH, SLEEPER

5:30 p.m. \$16-\$19. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

PEDRO NAVARRO, GUITAR
7 p.m. \$15. Instituto Cervantes, 31 W. Ohio St. 312-335-1996. housecallent.com

PROFESSOR JOHN

8 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

SHIRLEY JOHNSON BLUES BAND

9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

VANCOUGAR

9 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. mpshows.com

VERONA GROVE, THE GET GO

9 p.m. \$7. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

WITCHES AND DEVILS

10 p.m. \$5-\$15 suggested donation. Elastic, 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-3616.

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(Southport & School)
773.528.8226

5-7PM



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(Lincoln & Irving Park)
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pop

‘Rock’ stars

We give you 30 reasons to tune in this season



Tina Fey has been everywhere this past month—but not as herself.

The “Saturday Night Live” alum made a triumphant return to the late-night show to play Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin. Thanks to Fey’s uncanny impression of Palin’s winky, down-home mannerisms, “SNL” ratings have soared higher this season than in the past 14 years. And

Fey is one of the most celebrated entertainers of the moment.

The big question now is: Can Fey turn that popularity into a windfall at her real job as creator, producer, writer and star of NBC’s “30 Rock,” which returns for its third season at 8:30 p.m. Thursday?

“I hope this ends up helping ‘30 Rock,’ ” she told The Associated Press recently. “I would like the audience to go up just enough so that people don’t have to refer to it as ‘the ratings-challenged ‘30 Rock’ anymore.”

But the sitcom is ratings challenged. It averaged just 6 million viewers a week last season, despite later nabbing seven Emmys for the season, including best comedy for the second year running and honors for Fey and Alec Baldwin.

NBC isn’t doing the show any favors in the ratings war, putting it up against CBS’ juggernaut “CSI” and ABC’s popular “Grey’s Anatomy.” And last week the network streamed the excellent season premiere online for anyone to see, which isn’t really going to help the show on Thursday.

But Fey and “30 Rock” are pulling out all the stops this season. The show is as smart and funny as it’s ever been, lampooning not just the TV world but workplace politics, its characters’ romantic lives and popular culture.

And Oprah is stopping by next week.

Those are just a few of our 30 reasons you should watch “30 Rock.”

show patrol

CURT WAGNER
cwwagner@tribune.com



1 TINA FEY
“30 Rock” is not just Tina Fey’s show, it’s Tina Fey. Fey created the series about the head writer of the fictional sketch comedy show “TGS with Tracy Jordan,” drawing on her experiences as head writer for “SNL.” She plays Liz Lemon as a barely together, self-deprecating nerd who has to deal with a pompous boss and a half-crazy star, not to mention a room full of immature writers. Fey may do a mean Sarah Palin impersonation, but she rocks as Liz Lemon.

2 ALEC BALDWIN
As Liz’s wonderfully smarmy former boss Jack Donaghy, Baldwin makes you forget all the tabloid headlines about him. He’s perfect as Donaghy, a man of such huge ego that, in the season premiere, he has no doubt he will get his old job back: “It took me 22 years to work my way to the top the first time,” he tells Liz. “This time I think I can do it in nine.” Naturally, he does it a lot faster than that.

4-10 THE ENSEMBLE CAST

Fey and Baldwin are backed by one of the best ensemble casts in comedy, including Tracy Morgan, Jane Krakowski, Judah Friedlander, Katrina Bowden, Keith Powell, Maulik Pancholy and Kevin Brown.



APFILE



For more on "30 Rock" and other shows, go to redeyechicago.com/showpatrol.



NBC PHOTOS

11-12

CHICAGO CONNECTION

Fey met Jack McBrayer (right), who plays naive NBC page Kenneth Parcell, and Scott Adsit, who stars as Liz's go-to writer Pete Hornberger, while working in Chicago at Second City. She's also tapped Second City and iO alums Brian Stack, Miriam Tolen and Brian McCann in the past.

13

EVERYONE GETS TEASED

No one is safe from the swipes "30 Rock" takes. Fey and her writers are equal-opportunity bullies, mocking corporate culture, egotistical stars and women who want it all. They even bite the hands that feed them—NBC and its corporate parent General Electric. » Here's just one example of a political slap from the premiere: Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) says the video game he created is "the most profitable thing since the war on terror."



14-20

GUEST STARS

The guest star roster has been among the best on TV the past two seasons, with star turns from Edie Falco, Jerry Seinfeld, Al Gore, Paul Reubens, David Schwimmer, Steve Buscemi, Isabella Rossellini, Rip Torn, Carrie Fisher and Emmy winners Tim Conway and Elaine Stritch.

» The new season won't be any different. **Megan Mullally** (right) of "Will & Grace" (14) and **Will Arnett** (15) kick things off Thursday. Arnett is back as Jack's corporate nemesis, Devin Banks. Mullally, looking very much like Sarah Palin, plays an inappropriately snoopy adoption agency investigator checking Liz's credentials.

» You'll see other big names this season, including:

Jennifer Aniston
(16) as a woman
stalking Jack

Salma Hayek
(17) as a love
interest of Jack's

Blake Lively (18) and **Leighton Meester**
(19) from "Gossip Girl" as Liz's high school
classmates in a November flashback scene

Steve Martin (20) as
Liz's latest love interest.
Not to mention ...



21

OPRAH WINFREY

That's right, Tina Fey finally got the original Big O—not Barack Obama—to do a guest appearance.

Back in March, RedEye was on a conference call with Fey and other journalists when we asked her about guest stars. "I still want Oprah to play my best friend," Fey said. "I want to spend time with Oprah, but I don't know how to make that happen."

Soon the "30 Rock" cast was taping

Winfrey's show, which eventually led to Winfrey's appearance on the Nov. 6 episode of "30 Rock." Winfrey fully embraces the "30 Rock" spirit of self-mockery, telling Liz Lemon in a scene that her latest "favorite things" are saltwater taffy, calypso music, paisley, sweater capes and Chinese checkers.

23

THE OFFICE

NBC's other stellar comedy, "The Office," airs just before "30 Rock" at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, making the time period the funniest hour on TV.

Wouldn't you rather laugh than watch as another crime is solved by DNA testing?

22

IT MAKES YOU SMARTER

Don't you want to be able to talk to your cool friends? You can keep up with any conversation after spending some time with "30 Rock." The show not only drops the previously mentioned political tidbits, but also:

Pop culture references: "Lil Wayne, that's a person, right?" Liz asks.

Discussions of social issues

like sexism: "It's even harder being a beautiful woman," Jenna (Krakowski) argues.

"Everyone assumes I don't try in bed. It's discrimination."

You owe it to your reputation to tune in on Thursdays.

24

THE NOV. 6 EPISODE

Thursday's season premiere, which asks how far Liz and Jack will go to get what they want, offers inspired jokes about idiotic bosses, the adoption process, soap operas, quick promotions and greed. But the Nov. 6 episode, called "Believe in the Stars," has it all. The Jenna/Tracy feud shares time with a plot about Kenneth's disappointment in Jack after he learns that NBC faked some Olympic events.

It's the funniest half-hour of TV I've seen in a long time, boasting the show's mastery of writing, acting, timing and plot. And Oprah.

26-30

WE TURN TO YOU

RedEye asked our Twitter followers what keeps them watching "30 Rock." Some responses:

bayjb Two words:
Alec Baldwin,
dynomite!
Another word:
Blerg.

Aaron Schalk
Tina Fey's
glasses.

wkdown Quotes
like "You can't
have a Lemon
party without old
Dick!"

scorpionking601 After
November 4th, it's the
closest thing you'll see
to Sarah Palin without
moving to Alaska.



25

IT'S DARING

The show pushes right up to the politically incorrect line without stepping over it. In next week's episode, a feud between "TSG" stars Tracy and Jenna leads to the black comic pretending to be a white woman and the white sexpot impersonating a black man. OK, maybe "30 Rock" steps over that politically incorrect line just a little bit.



rempel Because
30 Rock is the new
The Office, and The
Office is the new My
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Laced-edge cardigan, \$98 at Anthropologie and anthropologie.com



Karen Kane turtleneck, \$68 at Nordstrom and nordstrom.com



Lace ruffle knit top, \$19.80 at Forever 21 and forever21.com



Kimchi Blue knit lace shoulder lace dress, \$58 at Urban Outfitters and urbanoutfitters.com

Laced with style

Lace was all over the fashion runways for fall. Whether on clothes or accessories, lace can be sweet and feminine or dangerous and sexy. Pick the look you're going for and dress accordingly.

FRUGAL FASHIONISTA JOANNA GUSTAFSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



frugal
JOANNA GUSTAFSON
ritaredeye@tribune.com



Wool flannel lace pencil skirt, \$99 at Ann Taylor and anntaylor.com



Isaac Mizrahi for Target lace-bow blouse, \$24.99 at Target and target.com



TopShop lace full skirt, \$65 at topshop.com



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- AMC Select Passengers (PG-13) 2:00,4:30,7:15,9:50
- Saw V (R) 3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30
- HS Musical 3 (G) 1:50,4:45,7:30,10:20
- Max Payne (PG-13) 2:15,5:00,7:45,10:10
- Body of Lies (R) 1:15,7:00
- Nick and Norah (PG-13) 4:15,10:00

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- Noah's Arc (R) 1:30,4:00,7:30,10:00
- The Duchess (PG-13) 2:00,4:40,7:25,10:05
- Rachel Getting (R) 1:45,4:25,7:20,10:15
- Religulous (R) 2:10,5:00,7:40,10:10
- What Happened (R) 1:55,4:35,7:45,10:20
- Filth-Wisdom (NR) 1:50,4:20,9:30
- Happy-Go-Lucky (R) 1:40,4:30,6:30,7:30,10:25

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

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■ Zack and Miri (R) 12:01

- HS Musical 3 (G) 12:30,1:10,1:40,3:20,3:50,4:20,6:05,6:30,7:00,8:40,9:10,9:40
- Saw V (R) 1:00,2:30,2:00,3:00,4:00,4:30,6:15,6:45,7:15,8:50,9:20,9:50
- Secret of Bees (PG-13) 1:25,3:0,4:20,5:10,7:10,7:50,10:10,10:40
- Quarantine (R) 12:20,3:10,6:20,9:00
- Body of Lies (R) 1:20,4:10,7:30,10:30
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 12:40,3:00,5:15,7:35,7:45,10:00
- Max Payne (PG-13) 2:10,5:00,8:00,10:45
- Eagle Eye (PG-13) 2:10,5:00,8:00,10:45
- Burn After Rd. (R) 2:20,4:50,7:20,10:20

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

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- HS Musical 3 (G) 4:40,7:00,9:20
- W. (PG-13) 4:45,7:15,9:45
- Religulous (R) 5:30,7:40,9:50
- Burn After Rd. (R) 6:15,8:15,10:15

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- Pride and Glory (R) 1:15,4:10,7:00,9:50
- Saw V (R) 1:02,2:00,3:00,4:00,4:45,5:30,6:30,7:15,8:00,9:00,9:45,10:15
- HS Musical 3 (G) 1:30,4:15,7:00,9:45
- Sex Drive (R) 1:30,6:45
- Max Payne (PG-13) 1:40,4:00,5:00,6:20,7:20,8:45,9:40
- AMC Select Secret of Bees (PG-13) 1:00,2:30,3:30,5:00,6:15,7:30,9:00,10:00
- AMC Select W. (PG-13) 1:20,4:20,7:05,9:50
- Quarantine (R) 1:10,3:20,5:40,7:50,9:50
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 1:00,2:00,3:15,5:30,7:45,10:00
- Eagle Eye (PG-13) 2:15,4:50,7:30,10:10
- Lakeview Terr (PG-13) 4:15,9:15

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- Heroes (NR) 5:00,8:00
- Roadside Romeo (NR) 5:00,8:00
- Death Race (R) 5:20,7:25
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 3:35,7:45
- HS Musical 3 (G) 5:15,7:35
- Saw V (R) 5:35,7:40

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
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- Burn After Rd. (R) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10
- Ghost Town (PG-13) 2:15,6:25
- Igor (PG) 2:05,3:40,5:15,6:50,8:30
- Vicky Cristina (PG-13) 4:25,8:40
- Journey-Center (PG) 2:10,4:10,6:15,8:20
- Burn After Rd. (R) 1:20,4:40,7:35,10:35,11:45
- Zack and Miri (R) 12:01
- Pride and Glory (R) 1:20,4:40,7:30,10:30
- HS Musical 3 (G) 12:30,1:10,1:40,3:20,3:50,4:20,6:05,6:30,7:00,8:40,9:10,9:40
- Saw V (R) 1:00,2:30,2:00,3:00,4:00,4:30,6:15,6:45,7:15,8:50,9:20,9:50
- Secret of Bees (PG-13) 1:25,3:0,4:20,5:10,7:10,7:50,10:10
- AMC Select W. (PG-13) 1:15,4:30,8:00,11:15
- Body of Lies (R) 1:10,4:10,7:15,10:30
- Quarantine (R) 1:30,4:00,6:20,8:50
- AMC Select The Duchess (PG-13) 1:25,4:35
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 3:05,5:25,7:40,10:10
- AMC Select Religulous (R) 1:55,4:25,7:20,9:50
- Nick and Norah (PG-13) 1:35,3:50,6:05,8:20,10:40
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Sears Tower makes list of green landmarks

Associated Press

The Sears Tower sits among Travel + Leisure magazine's list of 10 American green landmarks that deserve recognition for modern, sustainable design.

In adding the Chicago skyscraper to its list, the magazine said the tower is exploring how it can become more energy efficient. The list can be found in the magazine's November issue and at travelandleisure.com.

The magazine said the landmarks were chosen because they implement a variety of eco-friendly strategies, such as photovoltaic panels, green roofs and wind turbines.

Here are some of the other landmarks:

- San Francisco's California Academy of Sciences, which has a living roof with plantings that attract birds and butterflies.
- Nationals Park, Washington, which has a green roof and a site that's friendly to pedestrians, bikers and subway riders.
- New York City's High Line, a park being created on an abandoned elevated rail line in Manhattan.
- World Birding Center, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, Mission, Texas, a green building amid the park's nine protected habitats on the Mexican border.
- The Santa Monica (Calif.) Civic Center Parking Structure, which the magazine says is the first garage certified as environmentally efficient by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environment Design program.
- The Cor Tower in Miami's Design District, described by the magazine as "glamorous" and "chic" yet environmentally conscious (to be completed in 2011).



Sears Tower
TRIBUNE FILE

Score a touchdown with these deals

The fall season means war on the gridiron, culminating in a medley of bowl games, none bigger than Super Bowl XLIII, Feb. 1, 2009, in Tampa.

Sports travel company Roadtrips makes attending the Super Bowl a snap with a Jan. 29-Feb. 2 package that covers four nights' lodging, game tickets and round-trip stadium transfers for rates starting at \$4,985, excluding meals and airfare between home and Florida. (800-465-1765; roadtrips.com/football)

On Feb. 8, football takes a holiday when

the NFL Pro Bowl kicks off at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu. Fans can follow their favorite stars Feb. 5-9 with "NFL Pro Bowl Vacation Packages" from Pleasant Holidays, each with four nights' accommodations, game tickets, Official Tailgate Party admission and round-trip airport and stadium transfers.

Land-only prices are \$1,189-\$2,575, depending on the hotel and game seating selected. With round-trip airfare from Chicago, the price range is \$1,805-\$3,195, plus air taxes. (800-837-5999; pleasantholidays.com/probowl) TRIBUNE



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Explore San Francisco by cable car

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO San Francisco's cable cars carry 7.5 million people each year. Many of these passengers board at Powell and Market Streets, the famous turnaround site at the end of the line. Here tourists can snap pictures of workers manually swiveling the cars around to begin the route again.

But visitors may not realize there actually are three cable lines, each with its own flavor. The scenic Powell-Mason and Powell-Hyde lines both begin at Powell and Market. The third line, the California Line, is the least crowded and least known to tourists but also offers lovely views. Here's what you should know about the California Line:

Where it goes

Following 1.2 miles along California Street, from Drumm Street to Van Ness Avenue, the California line runs through the financial district, then to the exclusive Nob Hill neighborhood.

Things to see

Before boarding, hit the Ferry Building in The Embarcadero on Market Street. On Tuesdays and Saturdays, locals shop for produce at the Embarcadero Farmer's Market. At the Ferry Plaza

Wine Merchant's tasting room, you can taste wines from around the world, and at the Hog Island Oyster Co., you can sample oysters harvested daily from nearby Tomales Bay.

The California line is known for its steep grade. Looking up from Drumm, you can see the Powell cable line crossing California at the top of Nob Hill, with cars and passengers silhouetted against the sky. As you near the top of the hill, look back and see the architecture of downtown San Francisco, with San Francisco Bay and Bay Bridge as a backdrop.

If you get off at California and Grant, you're just a few blocks from Portsmouth Square in the heart of Chinatown.

Continuing along the California line, you'll see Grace Cathedral and the city's most posh hotels, such as the Ritz-Carlton at Stockton, and the Fairmont and Mark Hopkins hotels. The Mark Hopkins is known for its sky bar, Top of the Mark, with its sweeping 360-degree views of San Francisco and the bay.

Tickets

Fares are \$5. Muni Passports, good for unlimited rides on cable cars, buses and light rail (but not on BART), are \$11 for one day; \$18 for three days; \$24 for seven days. sfmta.com/passport



A cable car makes its way up a steep hill on California Street in San Francisco. AP

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Who's the real winner in 'Gay Chicken'?

I am not sure how I feel about "Gay Chicken."

Some of you out there already know what it is and may have even played it, but if you are like me, you'd never heard of such a thing until now.

(Note: Gay Chicken does not involve wrapping yourself in pink feather boas and frantically crossing Halsted Street to get to the other side. Nor is it when two men have sex in the bathroom of a Popeyes—that's just gross.)

Gay Chicken is a wild game—no pun intended—that apparently is all the rage at college campuses. Urbandictionary.com, the go-to source for bizarre new slang, defines Gay Chicken as when two straight guys move their faces closer and closer together, as if to kiss. The first one to turn or pull away is the "Gay Chicken."

Meaning that the loser is the one who is afraid to act or be seen as gay.

This game is all over the Internet, which is where I stumbled across it while looking for examples of gay Halloween costumes. On YouTube, most of the video clips feature college-aged guys, a surprisingly high number of whom are shirtless for some reason, leaning in closer and closer as if to kiss one another, usually resulting in one guy (the chicken) laughing and pulling away at the last minute.

Occasionally, they do touch lips for a brief moment, and their friends all hoot and holler about their allegedly gay behavior.

Again, I'm not sure how I feel about this. Part of me is offended by the fact that the object of the game is to "act gay" but then chicken out, as if it is scary to be gay.

At first, I was so put off by this that I considered filing a complaint—with whom, I don't know—or at least stomping around the house and complaining to any cat that would listen about the phobic behavior being exhibited.

But the more I watched these videos and the more I thought about it, the more I started thinking that the chicken is actually the loser. The winner is the straight guy who was willing to lock lips with his hetero buddy, if it came to that.

In each video, the winner is triumphant and treated as the more dominant and masculine of the two for not chickening out, showing that men value winning above all else, even if winning means making out with your best friend.

I also thought about whether I could play this game or not. If it were with a straight guy, hells yeah! But if there were a version called "Straight Chicken," I might actually be nervous to play. Makin' out with the ladies isn't something I am normally into, so I can see why these guys react the way they do—it's out of their comfort zone.

"Gay Chicken" really seems like a way for the straight-but-curious guys to act out their fantasies of experimenting with other dudes. So long as it is in game form, their heterosexuality remains intact.

But it also might make people more secure with their own sexuality and even open-minded about homosexuality in general.

Anyway, leave it to straight guys to invent a game that involves trying to get to first base with a friend for a laugh.

SEX COLUMNIST JASON STEELE IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

In each video, the winner is triumphant and treated as the more dominant and masculine of the two for not chickening out, showing that men value winning above all else, even if winning means making out with your best friend.

boy on boystown

JASON STEELE
redeyesex@tribune.com

TALK BACK

Do you think "Gay Chicken" is demeaning, or does it have the potential to make people more open-minded? E-mail redeyesex@tribune.com with your name, age and neighborhood.

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'05 FORD FREESTAR SEL	'06 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA XL-7	'07 FORD FUSION S4	'05 JEEP LIBERTY RENEGADE	'08 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES	'99 MERCEDES BENZ ML430	'05 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA	'07 MAZDA 6
\$13,595 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$13,895 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$13,895 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$13,995 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$13,995 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$13,995 OR \$259^ PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$14,795 OR \$279^ 39 MILES #P14433 PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!	\$14,795 OR \$279^ #P14262 PER MO. WITH ONLY \$500 DOWN!



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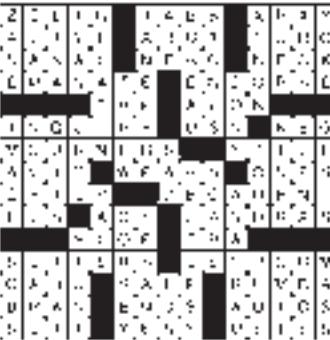
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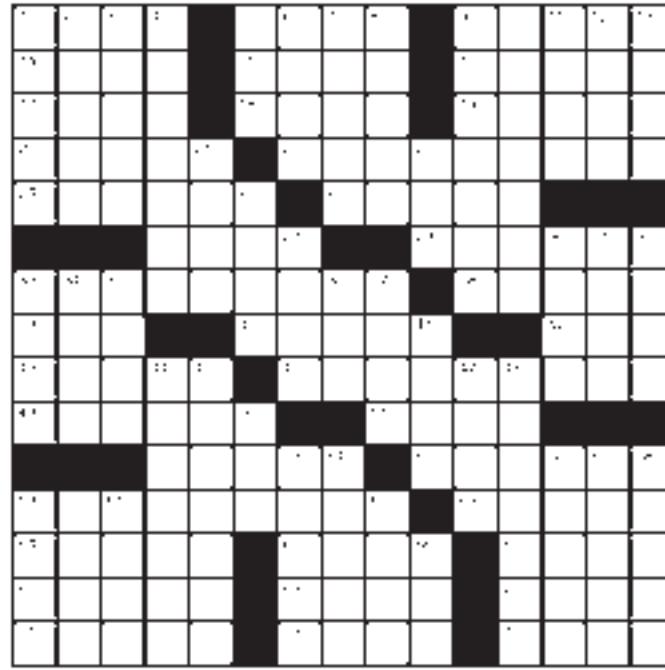
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**WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS****ACROSS**

- Play parts
- Fewer
- Veracity
- Get lost!
- Phooey!
- Skits, songs and dances
- Pulled apart
- Farm building
- Declares
- Borneo ape, briefly
- Quebecers
- Prepare, as leftovers
- Marks for removal
- Romanov title
- Tries to look good
- Blanket covering
- Girder substance
- Back in time
- Rhino relative
- Keanu in "The Matrix"
- Rescues
- Act of leaving
- 1926 channel swimmer
- Lead role
- Underground growth
- Villains' expressions
- More gaunt and bony
- Unspoken
- Wine choice
- Repast
- Sound quality
- Sponsorship
- Advantage
- "Lohengrin" lass
- Expanse of land
- Cereal grains
- Land title

DOWN

- Fur merchant John Jacob
- Routine duty
- Pentateuch
- Fourteen-line poems
- Mormon abbr.
- Idle or Clapton



7	Three-bean or garden	32	Blackthorn	53	Specialized clock
8	Rock	33	Foundation	54	Run-down
9	Wall Street figures	34	By Jove!	56	French school
10	Stop in again	35	Peace symbol	57	Remove suds
11	Eye part	36	Bonzo or Clyde	58	Lieu
12	Swivel	37	of the movies	59	Sultan of <u> </u> (Babe Ruth)
13	Pianist Myra	38	Fancy dance moves	60	"Moonstruck" star
21	Abrupt breath	41	Rodent pests	61	Latvia's capital
23	High peak	44	Inconsistent	62	Temper tantrum
25	Small pie	45	Last to finish	66	Guitarist Paul
28	my lips!	47	Declaim violently		
30	Bill of fare	48	Paid for		
31	Look intently	50	Long period		

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BLACK CHERRY

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BY
JIM
WALSH



Nothing to wine about

'Sopranos' vino joins long line of pop-culture booze options

Love "The Sopranos"? Or wine? Or both?

Then you might want to look into a new line of vino that's a spin-off of the HBO series that wrapped last year. *Sopranos* Wines are slated to be launched in the U.S. this fall, Reuters reports.

"We feel that these quality Italian wines are the perfect complement to all of our other carefully planned product extensions for 'The Sopranos' brand," James Costos, HBO spokesman, said in a statement.

The wines will be produced in part by the New York-based Vesuvio Import Company, which, according to Reuters, was created to develop the line and named after the restaurant in the show.

Sound a little ... weird? It's not that out of the ordinary. Take a look at these other boozy beverages hawked or inspired by celebs.

Other celebrity spirits

Mike Ditka Kick Ass Red

The deets: Part of the coach's line of high-end wines that bear his caricature on the bottles. **Perfect for:** Guys who want to sip on a red—but not in a "Sex and the City" way.

Lorraine Bracco's Bracco Wines

The deets: "Sopranos" actress Lorraine Bracco (she played Tony's shrink) launched Bracco Wines in 2006, according to Reuters. **Perfect for:** Fans of the show who are a little more subtle about their spinoff selections.

Donald Trump's Trump Vodka

The deets: Branded as the world's finest super premium vodka, it's an alcohol based on the image of perhaps one of the world's most well-known teetotalers. **Perfect for:** Ballers. Or people who want to be ballers.

Danny DeVito's Premium Limoncello

The deets: DeVito's name appeared on this label after his infamous appearance on "The View," in which he was (allegedly) still dusty from a night of limoncello-fueled revelry. **Perfect for:** Guests of daytime talk shows?

Dr. Dre's Aftermath Cognac

The deets: There was a report this summer that Dre would release this spirit with his new album, but details about it are scarce. **Perfect for:** People who are partied out in the Cadillac and like to sip on 'gnac, of course.

Marilyn Manson's Mansinthe

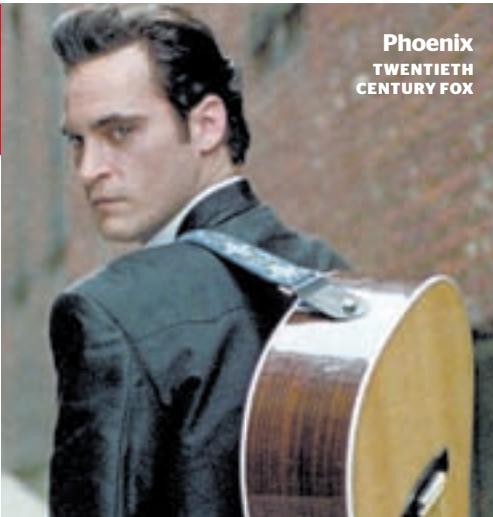
The deets: The shock-rocker's wormwood elixir won gold at this year's San Francisco World Spirits Competition, according to the Washington Post. **Perfect for:** Nineteenth Century Bohemians. And "Moulin Rouge" fans.



James Gandolfini,
a.k.a. Tony Soprano

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What's up Phoenix?

Is Joaquin Phoenix really quitting movie acting?

The "Walk the Line" actor tells "Extra" he's out. "I want to take this opportunity ... also to give you the exclusive and just talk a little bit about the fact that this will be my last performance as an actor. ... I'm not doing films anymore," extra.com quoted the actor as saying.

And a rep for Phoenix, who's gained a reputation as a bit of an eccentric, tells the site: "That is what he told me."

Stay tuned.

Working father

When Lil Wayne's son was born last week in Cincinnati, the rapper was there to help with the delivery, he says. "I delivered him. Wayne said Tuesday, according to people.com. Wayne described the delivery as "nasty" and "wonderful" and said the boy, Dwayne Michael Carter III, is "the best thing to ever happen to me, next to my daughter." Reginae Carter, 8, belongs to Wayne and his high school sweetheart. No word on his son's baby mama.

Sitter sisters?

Tina Fey says Sarah Palin was a good sport while they were both filming "Saturday Night Live" two weeks ago: She says Palin even offered to have her 17-year-old baby-sit Fey's 3-year-old. "Gov. Palin was like, 'Oh, did Alice go home? Oh, 'cause Bristol woulda' baby-sat.' She offered Bristol Palin to baby-sit Alice," Fey told Conan O'Brien on Tuesday, according to usmagazine.com excerpts.

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Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture, along with the name of the celeb who shares your style, to jxwalsh@tribune.com. For Thursday, we have Meochia Blount. Think she's a ringer for Vivica A. Fox? Text "twin" and the number of your opinion to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. DEAD ON

2. WAY OFF



Meochia Blount



Vivica A. Fox



IN

Ellen DeGeneres' haircut

Zac Efron says it inspired his own!



OUT

Russell Brand

He "resigned" Wednesday from his BBC radio show after controversy over a rude crank call.



WHATEVER

World records

Michael Jackson fans are attempting to break a world record for most people doing a simultaneous "Thriller" dance on Thursday, according to People.

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T.I. talks to the media Wednesday in McDonough, Ga., after voting for the first time. AP PHOTO

Rap the Vote

Can't stop T.I. from casting his vote

T.I. has voted.

But, you might ask, isn't the "Paper Trail" rapper a convicted felon? Yes, but in Georgia felons can vote if they're not currently in prison or on probation.

So T.I. did for the first time Wednesday.

"Now rather than just talking about it," the rapper tells The Associated Press, "I'm being about it. I'm leading by example, and it makes me feel a lot better."

T.I. begins his sentence in March after pleading guilty to trying to buy automatic weapons.



Iron Man
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HOT DATE

Feb. 10



That's when Lily Allen's sophomore album, "It's Not Me, It's You," drops in the U.S., according to Billboard.

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Star-studded send-off

Pop stars and bands whose careers evolved on "TRL" will be bidding the MTV show farewell at its Nov. 16 finale.

Beyoncé will be joined by 50 Cent, Fall Out Boy and Backstreet Boys in performing, MTV announced Wednesday.

Saying goodbye to the show that attracted throngs of screaming fans over the years will be Mariah Carey, Ludacris, Diddy, Snoop Dogg, Taylor Swift, Fred Durst, Good Charlotte and Korn.

And of course the VJ there from the start—Carson Daly—will be the finale host.



Luck of the drawers

We see London, we see France, we see Beckhams' underpants.

That is, two Beckhams in their underpants. Following in

the footsteps of her husband, Victoria Beckham has signed on to endorse a new Emporio Armani underwear collection due out in the spring, Us Weekly reported on its Web site.

Hubby Becks spread out—literally—for a skivvy-rific Armani underwear ad campaign earlier this year.

Immortalized superhero

Robert Downey Jr. is the man.

He'll be back for the "Iron Man" sequel out in 2010—and he'll star in the third installment, according to Variety.

Plus, he'll be in "The Avengers," set for release in 2011, bringing Iron Man, Captain America, Thor and Incredible Hulk together on the big screen.

But you won't see Terrence Howard around. Marvel confirmed reports that Don Cheadle will replace him as Col. James Rhodes in "Iron Man" and "The Avengers."

